OCTOBER 1982

80p

The Beatles BOOK MONTHLY

FIRST NEW ISSUE

FREE POSTER OFFER

The Beatles BOOK
The Original Official Monthly Magazine
No.78 OCT. 1982

EDITORIAL

THE BEATLES BOOK
45 ST. MARY'S ROAD,
EALING, LONDON
W5 5RQ, ENGLAND

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Publisher: SEAN O'MAHONY

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As I was putting together the first completely new issue of the Beatles Book since 196 I couldn't help remembering one question Paul asked me the first time I spoke to the boys about producing a regular monthly magazine for them. "How are you going to fill it every month?" was his main worry.

Although filling the Beatles Book was the least of my problems, Paul's question does illustrate how impossible it was for anyone to foresee what was going to happen in 196 and early '63.

As the new Beatles Book is being relaunched on the twentieth anniversary of the releas of "Love Me Do" I thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to capture the tru atmosphere of the events as they happened twenty years ago.

What I have done, therefore, is to divide the new Beatles Book into roughly two sections the first half of the magazine reporting on the events of twenty years ago — so this month we are talking about SEPTEMBER 1962, just before their first single went on sale in the shops — and the second half of the magazine featuring what is happening NOW, including current news, letters, personal ads, record releases etc.

Everyone who has contributed to the 1962 section, including myself, has done their best to write about the events that happened in September 1962 without the wonderful benefit of hindsight. It's all too easy to be clever after the event but I think it's much more fascinating to report what actually happened at the time — even though it may seem a bit naive, innocent or odd at times.

Although I did not mention the Beatles magazine to Brian until the beginning of 196 I was very involved with the record industry and particularly new groups when I first spoke to him in September 1962, the month before "Love Me Do" was released. I can, therefore, recall the mood and the hits of the time and I hope this section of the magazine will make it possible for people to share the feelings of John, Paul, George and Ringo and everyone else involved with their incredible climb up the ladder of musical history.

The picture on the back cover doesn't do full justice to the quality of the free John Lennon poster on offer this month, which is a really fantastic collector's item, and the first of a series of Beatles posters we shall be offering for sale in future issues.

Johnny Dean

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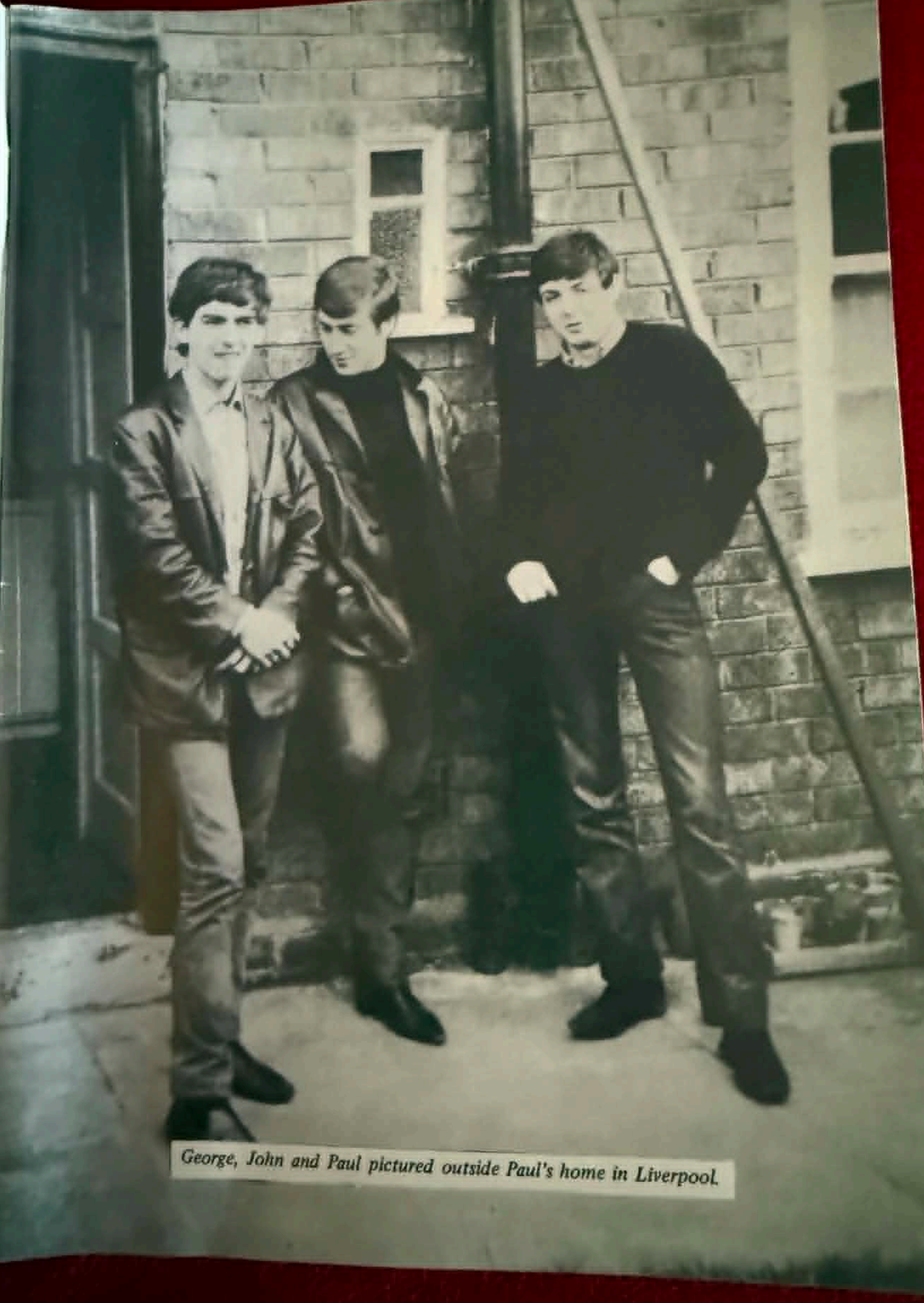

George, John and Paul pictured outside Paul's home in Liverpool.

Paul quickly had to get used to the unusual practice of shaking hands with visitors to the Beatles' dressing-room!

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SEPTEMBER 1962

LIVERPOOL'S BEST GROUP

THAT'S THE BEATLES, ACCORDING TO THEIR FELLOW MUSICIANS

Over the past couple of years, the people who have got to know the Beatles best in Liverpool are probably the musicians with whom they've shared concert bills, dressing rooms and drinks from the Cavern to the Empire Theatre. Many Liverpool groups would like to think of themselves as being the city's best band; but ask the other musicians, and you'll always come up with the same answer — the Beatles leave the rest standing. Two Mersey musicians who have spent a lot of time with the Beatles are Jim Mawer and Keef Hartley.

Jim first encountered the Beatles two years ago in 1960. During the last couple of years he has often shared the same bill as the Beatles, though he admits that his band, the Kubiks, are still really a warm-up band, "so I can't take too much credit for that!" Keef, on the other hand, has only come to know them recently, having taken over Ringo Starr's drum seat in Rory Storm and the Hurricanes. Both, however, agree about the Beatles.

Jim Mawer recalls the early years of the group, when the Beatles were still a five-piece outfit: "I first saw the Beatles in the Cavern. The whole place smelled of some kind of disinfectant, sweat would be dripping off the walls and many of the kids would be stomping. The Beatles used to mingle with everyone else and chat around. Paul was the really talkative one, he really loved it all. John was the joker, always making someone, and give me the impression of being a real hard nut. I asked him for a coke at a gig a few months back and he obliged by pouring one over my head! George was the shy boy of the group then. The Beatles played hard rockin' numbers in those days, like they do now, though a couple of years ago their equipment was a lot more primitive, not the Vox amplifiers they use now. You'd see John play his gold Rickenbacker with three close pick-ups on it, leaning against an old piano at the side of the stage near the door leading to the changing room. Paul would sometimes take the microphone off its stand for a number like "What'd I Say" — the Ray Charles song they still play at the Cavern now — so that he could put it down amongst the kids for them to join in the singing. In those days he used to have an old right-handed Rickenbacker guitar which he wore upside down, often without appearing to plug it in, and he used to do all of that posing with it. He did a lot of the singing, but Stu Sutcliffe, who was the group's bass-player then, would go up front after giving his old Fender to Paul. He used to do one particular number, "Love Me Tender", in his dark glasses, and the girls would go crazy. Then he and Paul would change back again. Although Paul did play some guitar a couple of years ago he was more like a featured singer then, almost like Cliff and the Drifters."

COMPETITION

The Beatles have always had a lot of competition in Liverpool, from acts like Gerry and the Pacemakers, the Bluegenes, the Big Three, the Undertakers, Billy Kramer and the Coasters, Johnny Sandon and the Searchers and a whole host of others. But Jim reckons that John Lennon and Co. always used to stand out from the others, even two years ago: "The whole thing was that they wouldn't conform to anything. The groups of the day were all dressed in suits but they couldn't care less, they were just out to have a good time."

Keef thinks the Beatles' appeal is still much the same today: "Yes, well, electricity ain't the best thing happening at the Cavern, and also either the amps pack up or everything just goes out. When that happens, John is liable to jump on the piano and — instant pandemonium! McCartney with crazy, outlandish humour. It's that kind of thing that I'm sure is a great advantage to them, because in the early days people who went to the Cavern must have been entertained as much by the wit as by the music. Whenever something goes wrong, the Beatles are able to keep the show going."

VENUES

Sometimes the venues aren't as peaceful as the musicians would like, as Keef explains: "Some of the audiences are really vicient, however. A knocker at the Iron Door literally saved my life recently. Just coming out of the place to load equipment into the van attracted a whole group of people trying to steal things and beat you up, and it is really a fright to get out from the Cavern with your gear sometimes. Often all the musicians wait behind and make an exit together."

Jim remembers a night when he and the Kubiks were playing at a pub called the Cross Keys and someone kept approaching the stage and demanding that they play "Wonderful Land". After they had finally succumbed to this 'request' he then accused the members of the Kubiks of staring too intently at his girlfriend, at which point a fight like a Western barroom brawl broke out. "I just got the hell out of there and went and hid in the loo with my guitar" says Jim. "And he was probably still playing 'Wonderful Land'" adds Keef.

This year the Beatles have been widening their scope by playing an increasing amount of dates outside Liverpool, thanks to the enterprising management of Brian Epstein. Keef Hartley actually first saw the Beatles playing a gig in the Preston area.

"They was sitting in the bar in their tight suits, three-quarter length leather overcoats with tie-belts and their usual huge black woollen scarves wrapped round and round their necks. With their mop-top hairstyles added to this they looked completely sop-heavy, except for Pete Best who had his hair combed back. What I first saw there as stage one of the thing that impressed me was that they seemed to give a really long introduction to every number they were about to perform. They were the first band I'd seen with three singers and the first who sang harmonies. Before them it was always 'Bob and the.....' 'Marty and the.....' First of all Lennon would go up to the microphone and I thought he was going to sing, and then Paul stepped up to the microphone and I thought 'Oh right, he's going to sing' but then he backed away and George Harrison ended up singing the lead vocal. It seemed an incredible time before they actually started the number, as if they were just messing about.

"I was with this band in Preston, and Alf (our bass player) knows Lennon and McCartney from a few years back; and he was the first one who told me about the Beatles, saying that there were these guys in Liverpool who did harmonies 'like the Everly Brothers'. Last week we had a gig in Morecambe and we drove there in a rackety old van which, we learned on the way, didn't have any lights. The Beatles were topping the bill and because our bassist knows them he asked Paul, who had turned up with Ringo in his own car, if he would guide us back to Preston afterwards. He did — at breakneck speed, about 75 mph in his Consul Classic, and us following him in a Bedford Dormobile! Forget it! No race! Anyway, when we eventually got back to Preston and went back to a friend's place, we invited Paul and Ringo in for a 'try-up' and they said 'yeah, fine'. So they came in with the rest of our band and Paul sat down at the piano and told us that the Beatles were going to be recording an album soon. Well, we were all absolutely shocked! We knew that they'd just recorded their first single, but an album was something else.

SONGS

"Then Paul asked us if we'd like to hear some of the songs he'd already written for it. He sat there and played these songs that they're going to record soon, one called 'I Saw Her Standing There" and another 'I Wanna Be Your Man" — though that one isn't finished yet. He played something else like "Little Queenie" with Ringo clowning about doing the drumming parts to it on the chair arms. I couldn't believe it. I was sat there thinking "the guy's really a songwriter". I've never met anyone before who could write more than two words or two chords together. It just seemed at that moment that here was someone who isn't any different from the rest

of us, from the same kind of background, who was going to do what we were going to do — the third Stones and the Hurricanes in a few weeks — following Brian Johnson. "They're who lasts more than a

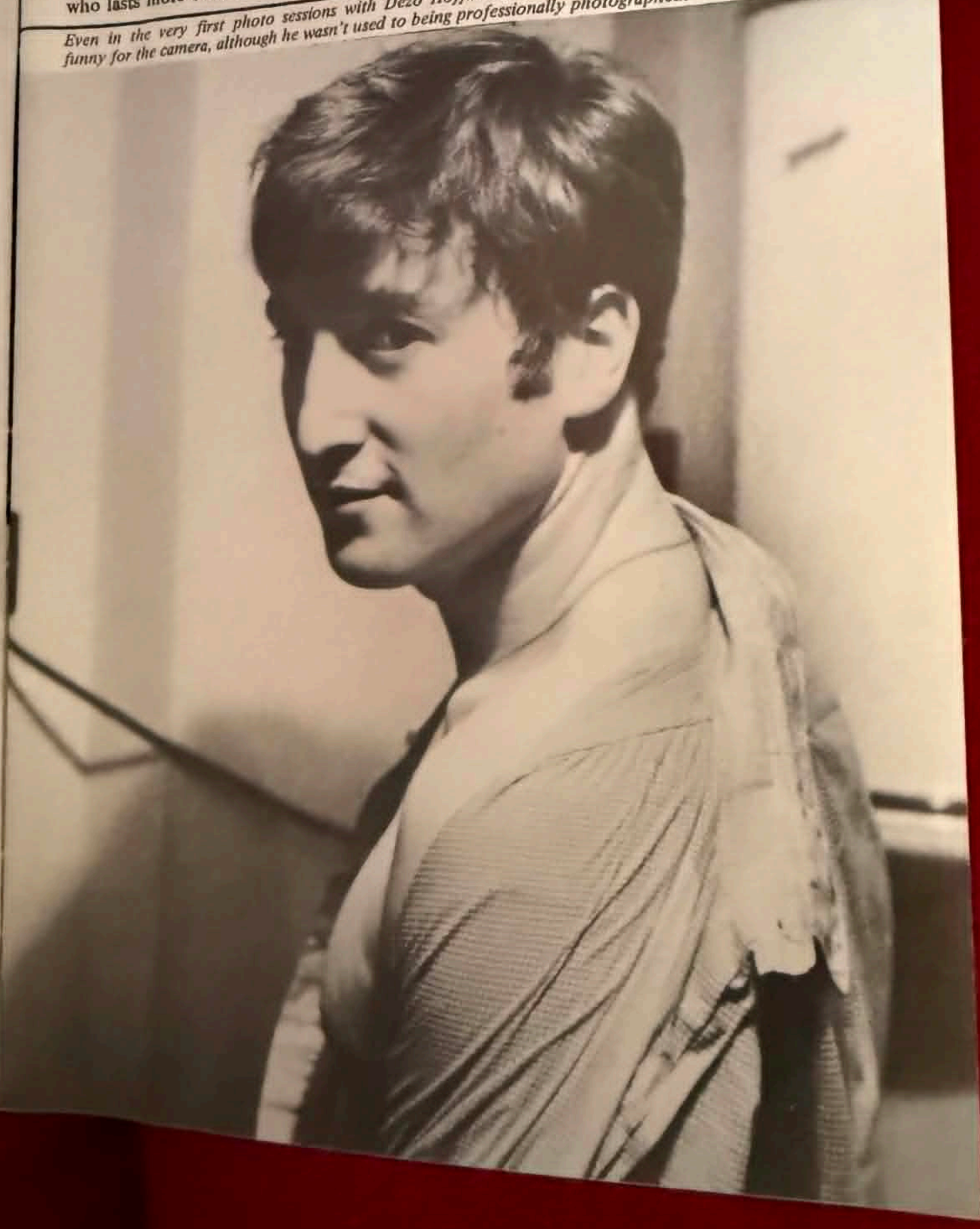
Keef is the very first person for the camera, alth

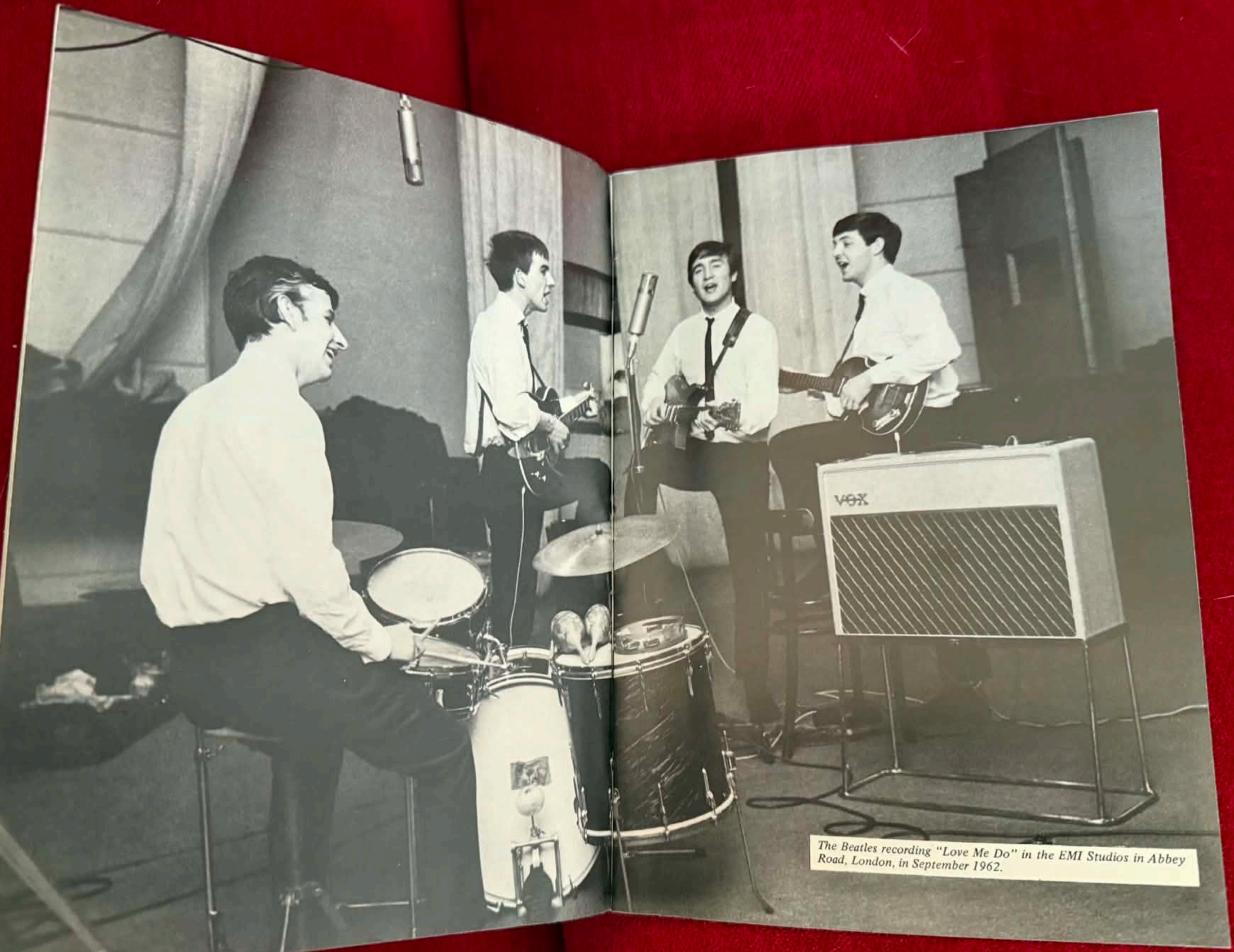
of us, from the same kind of background, who was going to do what we all dream of doing!"

Keef is the third drummer that Rory Storm and the Hurricanes have had in the last few weeks — following Gibson Kemp and Brian Johnson. "They reckon that anyone who lasts more than a week is something of a phenomenon!" says Keef. The other day he was handed Ringo's old stage-suits, and told that the Beatles' drummer would want £15 for them! Keef reckons that if the Beatles take off in a big way, then maybe Ringo will give him his money back!

by Richard Buskin

Even in the very first photo sessions with Dezo Hoffman, John was always verbally and visually funny for the camera, although he wasn't used to being professionally photographed.





The Beatles recording "Love Me Do" in the EMI Studios in Abbey Road, London, in September 1962.

Ringo complete with half-beard, moustache and quiff when he was playing with Rory Storm and the Hurricanes before he joined the Beatles

BEATLES NEWS SEPT. '62

NEW DRUMMER

Ringo Starr, the Beatles' new drummer, has been a popular regular on the Liverpool club scene for some time now, going around the coffee bars at night and hanging out at places like the Jacaranda and the Zodiac. In those days, of course, he was still a member of the Hurricanes, and sported a beard and a silver streak in his hair, both of which had to vanish when he joined the Beatles.

Beatles

The Beatles are currently turning up in ballrooms all over the Merseyside area. Bill Marsden has done a deal with Ron Ratty, the manager of the Majestic Ballroom, Crewe, who has started to book Liverpool bands on Bill's recommendation. Groups who have appeared in Crewe recently include the Beatles, Lee Curtis and the

BEATLES NEWS SEPT. '62

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BEATLES RECORDING SESSION

Brian Epstein has just sent in a full report on the Beatles' recording sessions at Parlophone which produced their first single, "Love Me Do". He describes them flying down to London from Speke Airport, registering at the Chelsea Hotel, going to EMI's No. 2 Studios in St. John's Wood and meeting "their A&R Manager George Martin and his assistant Ron Richards (who records Adam Faith and Shane Fenton)... The rehearsal part of the session began. It was a long and hard afternoon's work. Six numbers were considered and eventually two were selected for the actual recording session in the evening. The work was relieved when one of London's best known photographers, Dezo Hoffman, arrived to take numerous photographs.

"Between sessions George Martin took the Beatles out to dinner at his favourite Italian restaurant. During the meal, to the delight of the group, he recounted his experiences when recording Peter Sellers and Spike Milligan.

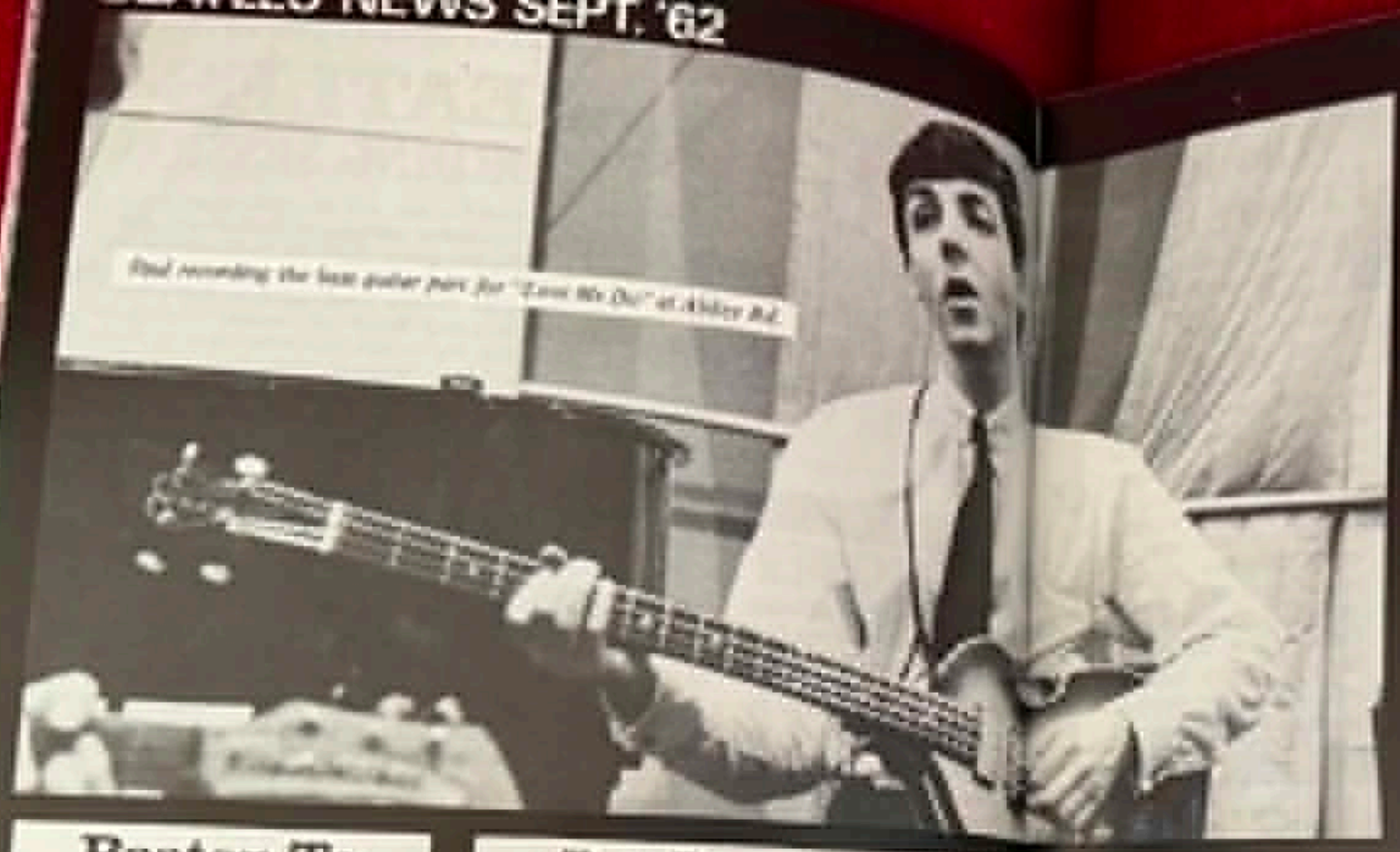
"And then the session proper. 'Love Me Do' was no simple matter. Everyone was anxious to attain a perfect sound which would reproduce the Beatles' unique qualities exactly. The backing (the voices were superimposed later) was 'taken' no less than fifteen times — John's mouth (on harmonica) was numb with playing and the atmosphere was tense. When the vocals had been recorded and the session ended (after midnight) everyone was so dazed and tired that it wasn't really known how good or bad the result was."

Beatles In The Ballroom

The Beatles are currently turning up in ballrooms all over the Merseyside area. Bill Marsden has done a deal with Ron Ratty, the manager of the Majestic Ballroom, Crewe, who has started to book Liverpool bands on Bill's recommendation. Groups who have appeared in Crewe recently include the Beatles, Lee Curtis and the All Stars, the Big Three, Billy Kramer and the Coasters and Group One.

Another ballroom now booking the Beatles regularly is the Plaza, St. Helens, run by Harry Bostock. There are also more names from other parts of the country appearing in Liverpool these days: Joe Brown and the Bruvvers at the Cavern, Nero and the Gladiators at the Majestic, and Mike Berry at the Plaza. Mike is doing well with his "Tribute To Buddy Holly", and told me that of the Liverpool groups he particularly liked the Beatles.

MORE 1962 NEWS ON NEXT PAGE



Final recording the lead guitar part for "Love Me Do" at Abbey Rd.

Beatles vs Lee Curtis?

The feuding continues with Parlophone last really set for war among the pigeons in Liverpool. Lee Flannery, a friend of Brian's who is determined not to be outdone, has started making about trying to fix a deal for Lee Curtis. Lee is really his brother, Peter Flannery, who leads a group called the Strangers. He's a well mannered-looking singer with good looks and could certainly get to the top. He definitely has the voice. Well, he has always reminded people a lot of Brian Epstein in the dedicated way he pushes Lee — ordering out ads in Mersey Beat; always going round to the office with photographs and stories. He even went so far as to get Russ Conway during his Empire appearance to see if the two could furnish Lee with a song. I wrote at the time: "Perhaps he (Lee) is the only one in Liverpool who put together the thought: Russ Conway is to Liverpool, Russ Conway wrote the hit song "Snowbird" — and rather than wait for opportunity to knock, decided to go out and knock up his own opportunity. Without further ado, Colonel Lee (as he is called by those who think of Elvis Presley's fortnight manager Colonel Parker, no doubt) approached the famous pianist with the idea of him writing a song for Lee Curtis."

When Lee heard the news from Brian that the Beatles were recording for Parlophone, he started making about, trying to excite Brian. Well, it looks as if he's cracked it. He told me that Lee has recorded a number called "Little Girl" for Decca, with orchestral backing, and that it'll be released before "Love Me Do". We'll have to wait and see who finishes on top!

Beaten To The Punch

The Beatles won't be the first Liverpool band to make a record when "Love Me Do" is released this month. They were beaten to the punch by Howie Casey and the Seniors, who signed with Fontana and had their first single released in March this year. It was May before Brian Epstein was able to send the telegram about the Beatles' recordings: "HAVE SECURED CONTRACT FOR BEATLES TO RECORDED FOR EMI ON PARLAPHONE LABEL 1ST RECORDING DATE SET FOR JUNE 6 BRIAN EPSTEIN".

Pete Best - All Star!

As Lee Flannery carrying his rivalry with Brian Epstein too far? His latest move was to persuade ex-Beatles drummer Pete Best to join Lee Curtis's group, the All Stars. See his latest out an advert that reads:

MAJESTIC BALLROOM
Conway Street, Birkenhead
First appearance of
PETE BEST with
LEE CURTIS & THE ALL STARS
Monday September 10th

Picking the Majestic out who at present play at the Beatles currently have a fortnight residency there. Bill Marsden, the ballroom's manager, has given me an advert for the month's gigs and I see that the All Stars are booked for two Monday sessions. First — Pete Best opening the week and the Beatles closing it.

Hurricane Backing

Apart from accompanying the Beatles to their recording sessions, Brian has been busy setting up promotions for Fifth Anniversary, with the help of Bob Wooler. Most recently he booked the Beatles at the Hoose's Out in Widnes on September 19th, backed by Rory Storm and the Hurricanes. Rory still hasn't got over the fact that Ringo has left his band, and says he won't be able to find a suitable replacement for him.

The following Monday the Beatles played at the same venue, backed this time by Billy Kramer and the Coasters and the Vikings. Other prestige events the month include the Little Richard show at the Tower Ballroom on October 12th, and the Kall Denver 7ths at the same venue on November 4th.

Cavern Gigs

Quite apart from all the extra work they'll be doing to promote the Parlophone release of "Love Me Do" (which is due in the shops on Friday October 5th), the Beatles' diary is chock-full of Merseyside gigs over the next few weeks. On the evenings of Wednesday 3rd October and Sunday 7th, they are at the Cavern, where they are booked to play an average of two evening sessions per week all through October. At 4.30 p.m. next Saturday afternoon (Oct. 6th), you'll get a chance to meet the boys when they sign copies of "Love Me Do" in Dawson's Music Shop in Widnes!

AND STILL MORE NEWS FROM THE BEATLES ON NEXT PAGE

THE WRITING BEATLES

Obviously the big news in ... over the month was the Beatles' first single ... Parlophone; but there have been plenty of other interesting stories to report as well. Liverpool has been brought into the limelight by the movie makers, with Susan Hayward starring in a film called "I Think The Fool" and filmed in the Pool. The Manchester scene can't be ignored either, as lots of great new groups are appearing there but this month you just can't get away from the Beatles. Paul McCartney contributed a small article this month — edited down from a letter he sent to me — and illustrated it with a photo which his brother, hairdresser Mike, got me. In the same issue I have included a picture of Ringo, showing off his new Beatles look — and also the latest piece of madcap humour from John Lennon, in his 'Beatcember' series. This one's called "On Safari With Whistle Hunter". They're always very popular and John's always given me enough to fill a book!

Who Tops Empire Bill?

Mystery surrounds another October presentation to be mounted by NEMS. Brian Epstein is refusing to name a 'secret' billtopper to head the line above both his Beatles and guest star Craig Douglas on Sunday October 28th at the massive Liverpool Empire Theatre. Kenny Lynch, Jet Harris and Sounds Incorporated are also billed to appear. Whispers in Liverpool suggest that Epstein's mystery man could be Little Richard, but the news is likely to remain 'unofficial' until after the American's appearance in New Brighton.

ROCKIN' UP THE TOWER!

Brian Epstein promises Merseyside fans five and a half hours of music for about two bob (ten pence) an hour when NEMS presents a spectacular stage show at New Brighton's Tower Ballroom on Friday October 12th.

It promises to be a very special night for the Beatles because topping the bill is one of their biggest American idols, the one and only Little Richard! Ten other Mersey beat bands will keep the Tower rockin' and rollin' all evening long!

Under Siege

The Zodiac club in Duke Street is a favourite meeting place for Ringo and friends like Pete Davis, a little blonde with a great personality and Cilla White. Cilla's ambition at the moment is to become a jazz singer. One night as the Zodiac a gang of drunks tried to get in, so the owners bolted the iron door and the gang tried to break it down. Inside Ringo and friends were under siege. They discovered that the club had no phone, so they couldn't even call the police. They had to stay there for hours before it was safe to leave!

The Zodiac is a funny cellar club, like a narrow underground alley. On the jukebox is a number called "Four And Twenty Thousand Kisses" by Paul Murphy, one of the Zodiac regulars, who used the name Paul Rogers when he made the record. He was the first Liverpool person everyone knew who had made a record and he was featured in an early issue of 'Mersey Beat' last year.

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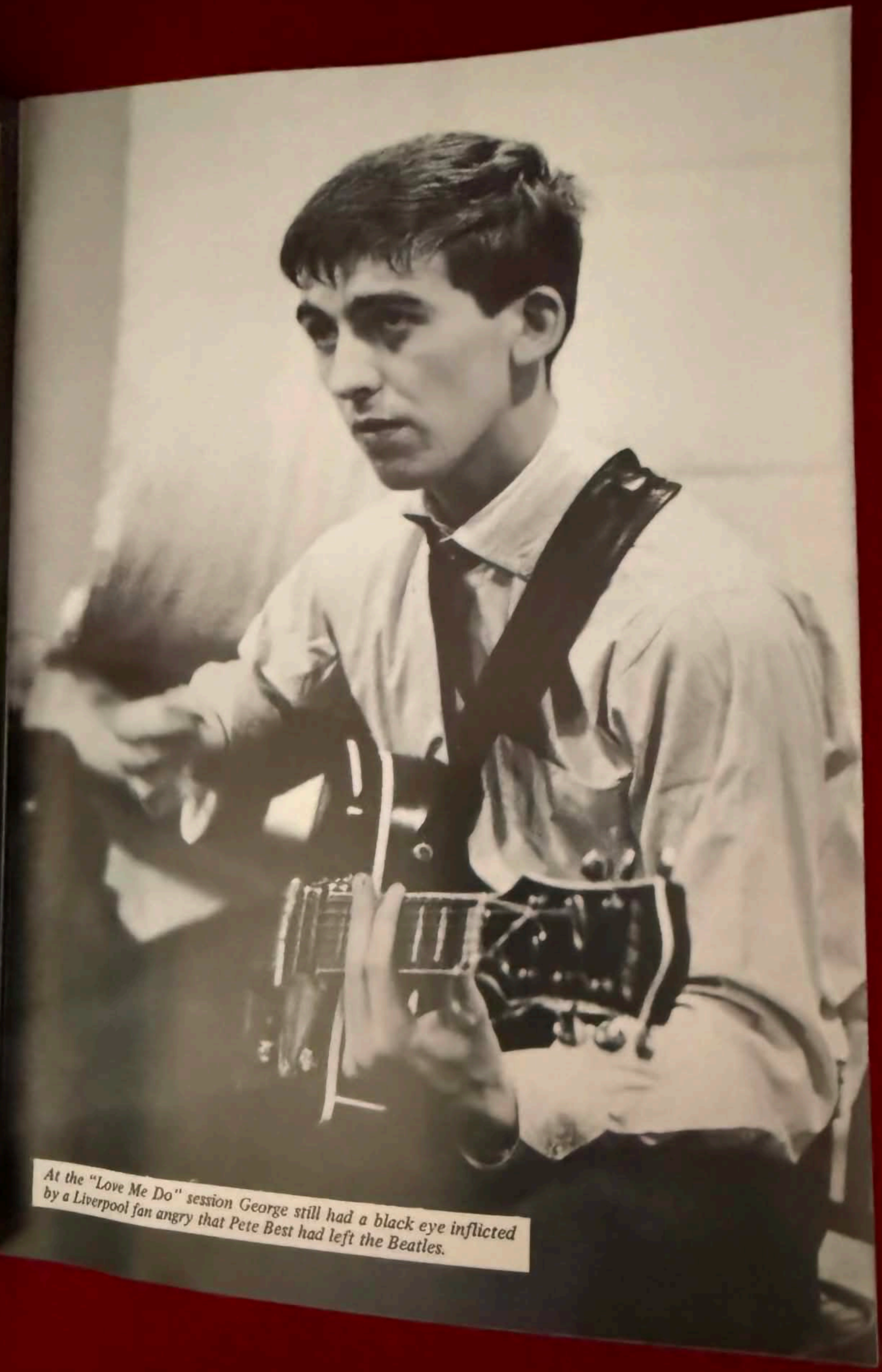


At the "Love Me Do" session George still had a black eye inflicted by a Liverpool fan angry that Pete Best had left the Beatles.

Stu' & John outside
The Liverpool
Art College in 1961

Nick

SEPTEMBER 1962

THE BEATLES' FIRST SINGLE

WHAT A MONTH! THE BEATLES SIGN WITH EMI AND RECORD TWO OF THEIR OWN SONGS FOR THEIR DEBUT SINGLE

BY JOHNNY DEAN

So the Beatles have finally got a recording contract. I know Brian's been chasing the London A&R men for months so I just don't understand why it's taken so long for one of them to wake up and give the boys a deal. All the record companies keep putting out new releases by people I've never heard of so why they didn't want to give the Beatles a chance to show what they could do is beyond me. Spotting British talent has always been a tough job for them even when it's shoved right under their noses. I think most of them would much rather go back to copying American ideas and hits, than get away from their London desks and look for new talent in the wilds of Lancashire! I'll be meeting Brian next week and he's already promised to reveal exactly what's been going on behind the scenes during the past six months so I'll be able to tell you all about it next month.

As you've probably heard by now the boys' first single is to be called "Love Me Do". I was a bit surprised myself when I heard the news because I was ninety per cent certain that their recording manager, George Martin, would be so knocked out by their big rockers that he would have released one of them first.

Both "Love Me Do" and the 'B' side "P.S. I Love You" were both written by John and Paul, so they are now fully-fledged song-writers! Of course they have been writing songs for quite a long time but I don't think anyone can be called a 'songwriter' until they have a proper recording of one of their songs released by a record company. I know John and Paul will be very pleased when they see their names on the Parlophone label for the first time.

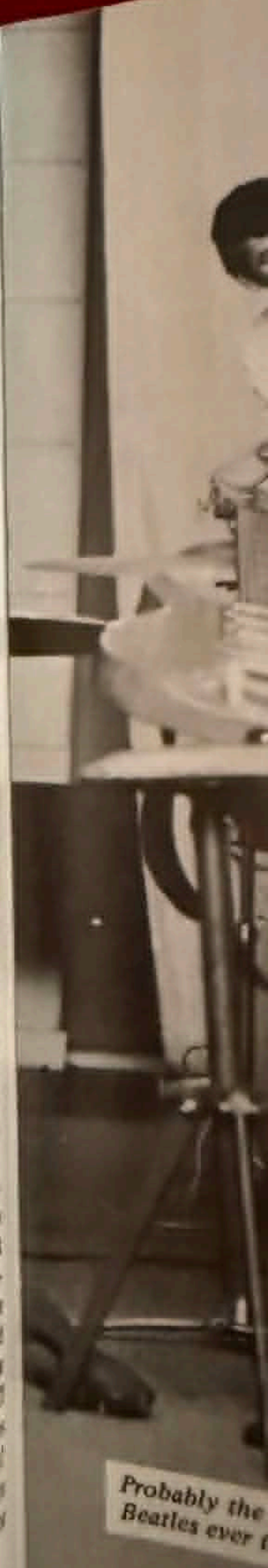
LIVERPOOL

If it was up to their fans in Liverpool I am quite certain that "Love Me Do" would shoot up to the No. 1 spot as soon as it was released. Unfortunately there are one or two others around with the same idea. Apart from Elvis and Cliff who keep making more good discs and have very big fan clubs in this country, there are a lot of other good records in the charts at the moment.

Most of them seem to be by solo singers. Frank Ifield is at No. 3 with "I Remember You", Ronnie Carroll No. 4 with "Roses Are Red", Bobby Darin No. 5 with "Things", Neil Sedaka and Brian Hyland are tying for the No. 7 spot with "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do" and "Sealed With A Kiss" and Adam Faith is at No. 9 with "Don't That Beat All". On top of that little lot Pat Boone, Little Eva, Ray Charles, Mike Sarne, Buddy Holly, fellow Liverpudlian Billy Fury, Shirley Bassey and Brenda Lee are all in the top 30 right now and there are loads of others with new records being released every week.

It's been an incredible year for instrumentals — The Tornados have rocketed up to No. 6 with "Telstar" and The Shadows are at No. 10 with "Guitar Tango", excellent successors to Acker Bilk's "Stranger On The Shore" and Nut Rocker" by B. Bumble and The Stingers. Surprisingly there are very few groups around with vocalists apart from Cliff Richard and Lonnie Donegan, so the Beatles can't be accused of copying the current trend.

The difficulties Brian was up against when he was trying to get a recording contract for



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Probably the first posed publicity picture of the Beatles ever taken in Abbey Road Studios.

the Beatles were highlighted by Kim Bennett, a music publisher who works for Arthmare & Beechwood, EMI's music publishing company, when I ran into him in Denmark Street — London's Tin Pan Alley — last week. He reckoned there was no way that a group consisting of guitars and drums backing a vocalist could mean anything these days because Cliff and The Shadows have done it to death! For some reason groups — singing groups that is — are out at present.

But as anyone in Liverpool can tell you the Beatles are not just another copy of Cliff Richard and The Shadows. They don't have just one lead vocalist. John, Paul and George all sing and do backing vocals for each other. They sound completely different, they look different and they're NEW. It's about time everyone had a change from twisting with Chubby Checker and movin' and groovin' with Cliff.

PROBLEM

The Beatles' big problem, of course, will be getting sufficient plugs for "Love Me Do". The important programmes these days are the evening shows on Radio Luxembourg and Saturday Club on the BBC. So I hope that every Beatles supporter will start sending in cards to all the music programmes THIS WEEK asking their favourite DJs to play "Love Me Do".

If Brian could line up a few television appearances then I think all the other record buyers in the country would realise how good the Beatles are and "Love Me Do" would take off like a rocket. I really do think the Beatles are a group you have to SEE to appreciate how good they are. I was like everyone else when they first started playing around Liverpool. I had heard they were very good on

Always rearranged his hair and shook off his beard when he joined the Beatles, but still has his own name on his records.

stage but then so were lots of others like the Big Three, Gerry & The Pacemakers, the Searchers and many more besides. But when I actually saw them on stage I realised that they were the best group in Liverpool, and I am quite certain that everyone else would think the same if they appeared on TV. Of course they wouldn't be able to make exactly the same kind of jokes that they do at The Cavern but they could still muck about a bit. It's so important that the rest of the country gets to know the boys because they're not just competing with other Liverpool groups any more. They have got to take on everyone else in Britain and also beat a lot of Americans if they are going to get into the charts.

Between thirty and forty new records are released every week and only a few of them become hits. Most of them disappear within a week or two after they first come out. A lot of the others will because they're by well-known singers or groups. If "Love Me Do" isn't played by the DJs then EMI will stop plugging it on their own programmes, so if you have not ordered your copy from NEMS or your local record shop, make sure you do right now.

The boys have already had a small write-up in the New Musical Express — the country's most important musical paper which sells over 200,000 copies every week. For some reason the journalist who wrote it decided to report the signing of two 14 year-old schoolgirls first and then went on to give separate paragraphs to Gordon Chance, a girl singer Beverley Jones and Alan Elsdon's Jazz Band. The Beatles had to share their announcement of the release date of "Love Me Do" with another group, The Cool School. It will be interesting to see who makes the charts first.

The only people who have got a photo in the centre spread of the NME in the issue dated September 21st were four singers Danny Williams, Marty Wilde, Mike Sarne and Adam Faith and an actor called Sean Connery who is playing James Bond in a new film called 'Dr. No'.

I know that Elvis and Cliff and all the others are polished and experienced performers who make great records but I still believe the Beatles can do it if you help them.

PHOTO CREDITS

LESLIE BRYCE: front cover, 24/25, back cover. MIKE McGEAR: 3. DEZO HOFFMAN: 4, 7, 8/9, 12/13, 15, 18, 21, 23, 26, 28, 32/33. SYNDICATION INTL.: 10, 42/43. GEFFEN RECORDS: 37, 40. LINDA McCARTNEY/EMI: 35, 47. DARK HORSE RECORDS: 38.

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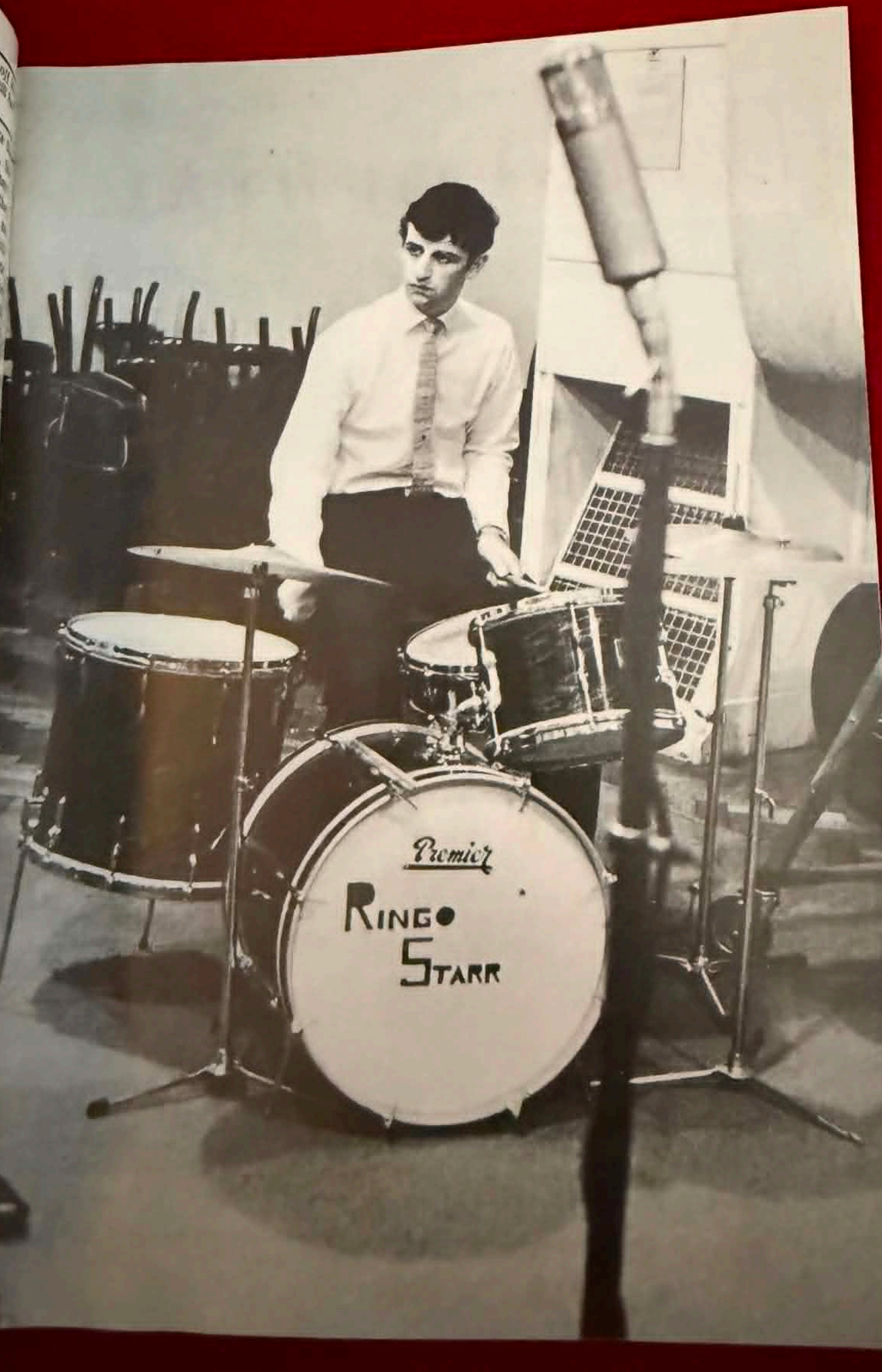

Beatles Diary 1962

SEPTEMBER

SEPT. 3rd
The group played their first date at the Queen's Hall in Widnes, supported by Billy Kramer and the Coasters, and Rory Storm and the Hurricanes.

SEPT. 4th
They travelled to London for their first official session at the EMI Studios in Abbey Road. Producer George Martin heard them run through several possible choices for a first record, including a Mitch Murray song called "How Do You Do It" and Lennon/McCartney compositions like "Love Me Do", "Please Please Me", "Love Of The Loved" and "P.S. I Love You".

SEPT. 6th
"Mersey Beat" magazine was published, containing an interview with Paul (whose surname is given as McArtney!) about the early days of the Beatles, under the heading "A Little Bare", and a piece written by John called "On Safairy With Whide Hunter". The paper also included a full-page advertisement taken out by Brian Epstein to publicise the forthcoming Little Richard show at the New Brighton Tower on October 10th, where the Beatles will be second on the bill.

That evening they played their third show at the Riverpark Ballroom in Chester.

SEPT. 8th
They headlined a show at the Majestic Ballroom in Conway Street, Birkenhead.

SEPT. 9th
They played their usual Sunday night residency at the Cavern, backed by Billy Kramer and the Coasters and Clinton Ford.

SEPT. 10th
The Beatles performed their second show at the Queen's Hall, Widnes, where they are supported by Geoff Stacey and the Wanderers and Rory Storm & the Hurricanes.

SEPT. 11th
At 8.15am they assembled with Brian Epstein at Liverpool Airport for their flight to London. When they arrived they went straight to the Abbey Road studios where George Martin told them that he had selected "Love Me Do" and "P.S. I Love You" as the boys' first single. With a little help from session drummer Andy White, they recorded the backing track and then the vocals for both tracks, and after dinner with George Martin and a photo session with Dezo Hoffman they returned to their Chelsea hotel.

SEPT. 12th
In the morning they visited several music journalists in London to try and drum up interest in the Beatles. They returned to Liverpool by air in the afternoon.

SEPT. 16th
They played the evening date at the Cavern.

SEPT. 17th
There was another Beatles show at the Queen's Hall, with Billy Kramer and the Coasters and the Vikings as support groups.

SEPT 20th
"Mersey Beat" contained the second part of a Paul McCartney interview (with Paul's name spelt correctly this time!), talking about the boys' time in Germany under the heading "Hamburg".

SEPT. 21st
The Beatles received their first mention in the national press, when the imminent release of "Love Me Do" was announced in "New Musical Express".

SEPT. 22nd
The Beatles once again headlined at the Majestic Ballroom, Birkenhead.

SEPT. 23rd
Their residency at the Cavern continued, with the Dominoes and the Saints Jazz Band supporting them that evening.

SEPT. 26th
They played two shows at the Cavern, without a support act at lunchtime and then backed by the Spidermen and the Dominoes for the evening session.

SEPT. 28th
They played another midday Cavern show.

SEPT. 30th
The Beatles played the Cavern in the evening, backed by the Red River Jazz Men and Clay Ellis and the Raiders.

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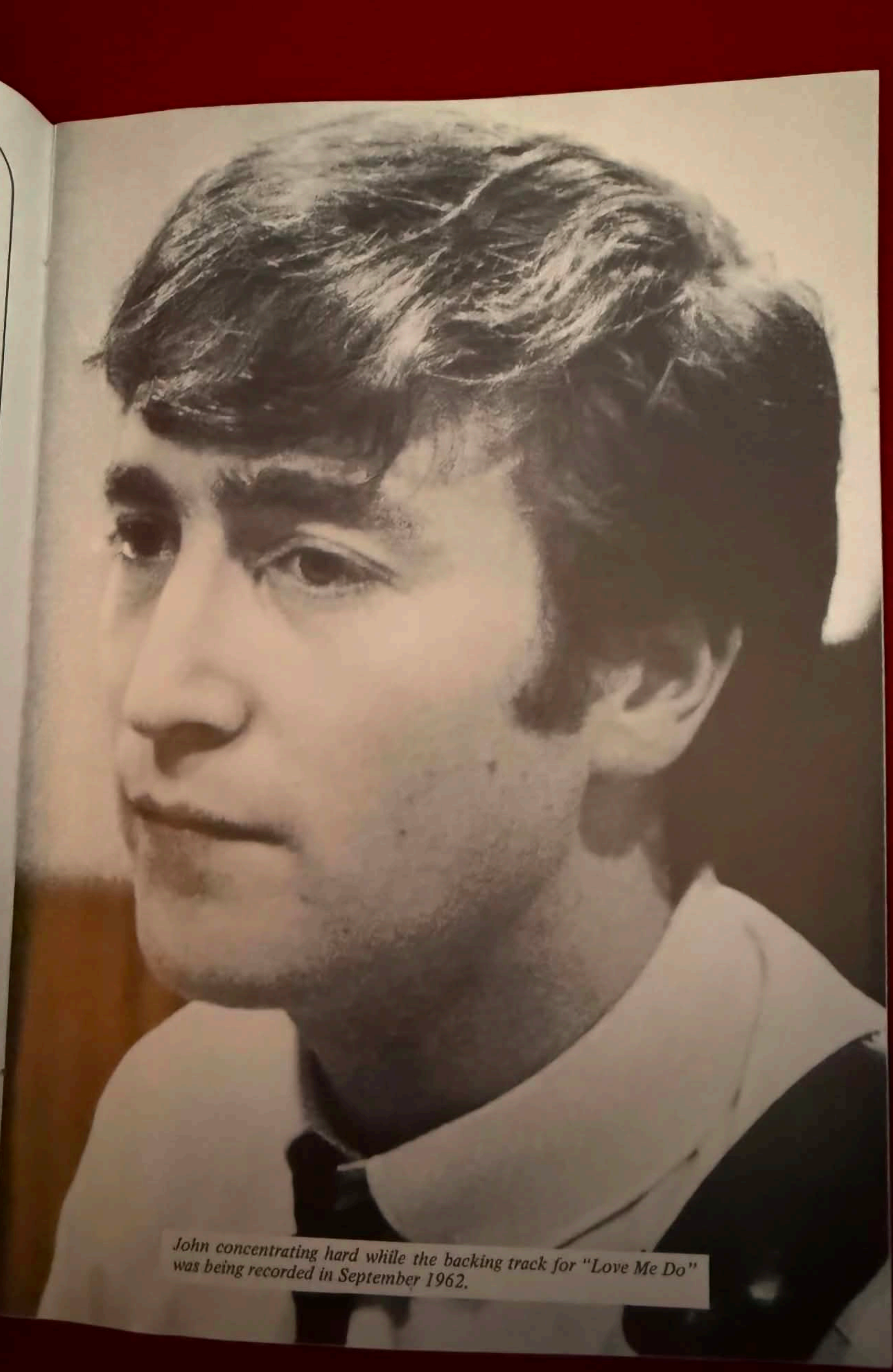
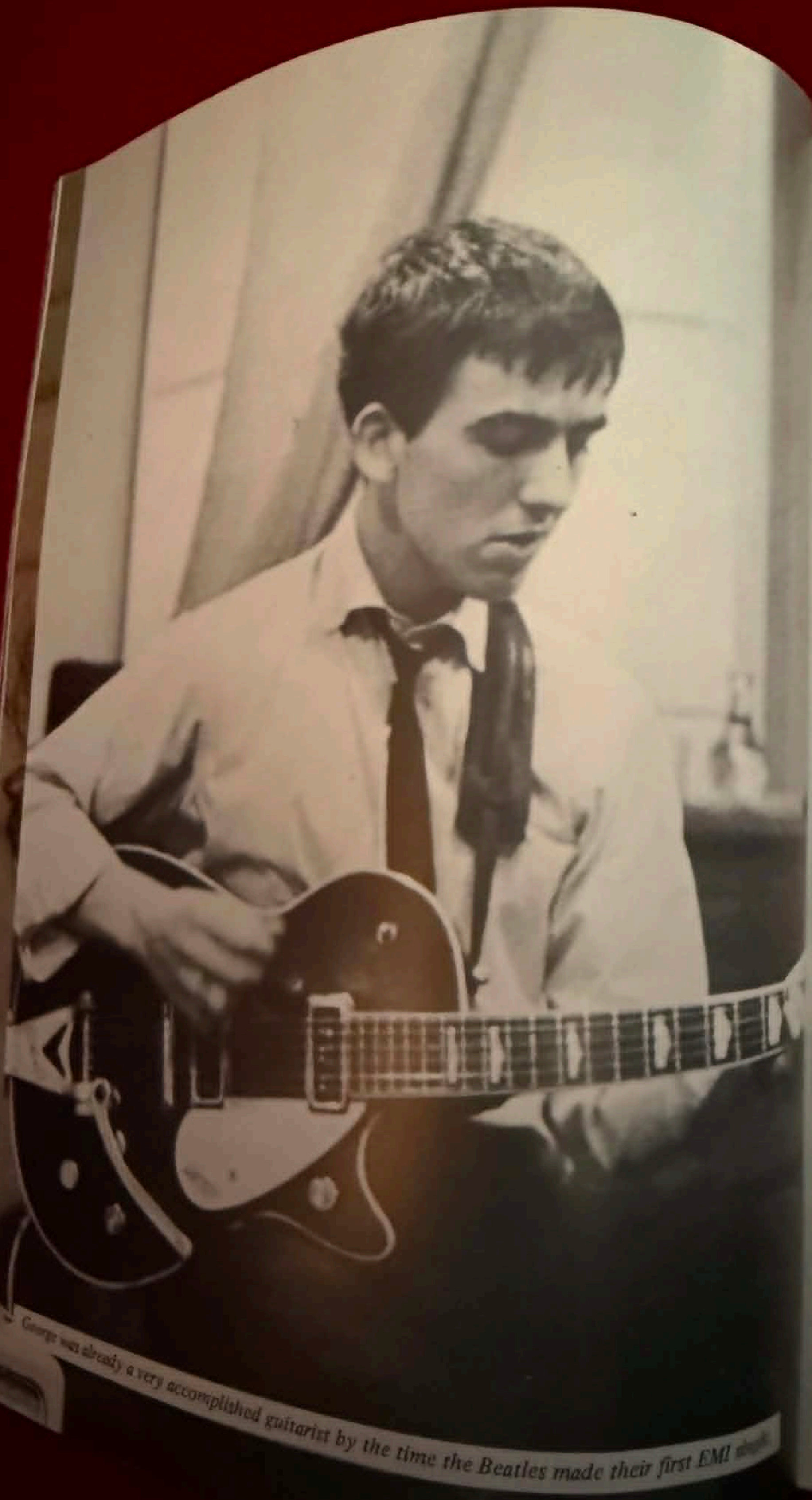


John concentrating hard while the backing track for "Love Me Do" was being recorded in September 1962.



George was already a very accomplished guitarist by the time the Beatles made their first EMI single

LETTE

Send your Beat

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LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Send your Beatles letters to us at: 45, St Mary's Road, Ealing, London W5 5RQ, England.

LAST LIVE CONCERT

Dear Johnny,

I have only become a fan of the Beatles over the last year, so there are quite a few things about their career in the Sixties which I would like to know. First of all, where and when did they play their last live concert together, and was it ever released on a record? Secondly, is it true that not all of the Beatles played on all of their records? And thirdly, did all four Beatles ever get together after the group split up?

Jane Freeman, Newcastle.

The Beatles played their last real concert together in Candlestick Park, an open-air arena in San Francisco, on August 28th, 1966, at the end of their final American tour. That show was taped by Tony Barrow, the group's press officer, but has never been released on record. However, the Beatles did make an impromptu appearance on the roof of their Apple Records offices in London on January 30th, 1969, during the filming of the "Let It Be" movie. The performance can be seen at the end of the film.

It is true that not every Beatles record has all four playing on it, although most did. Of course, sometimes one or more of the group weren't available for sessions at the same time, so occasionally Paul would play drums, or John lead guitar, if Ringo or George weren't around. On other songs, like Paul's "Yesterday" and George's Indian songs, the other Beatles weren't needed to play, as only outside musicians were used.

After the Beatles broke up in 1970, they only really got together for business reasons, although on a couple of occasions in the States all four met socially. Of course, John, Paul, George and Ringo always kept in close touch, and often worked together in the Seventies in twos or threes.

MOVIE MEDLEY

Dear Johnny,

I have just purchased the Beatles' "Movie Medley" single, and discovered that both sides feature the "Medley" track even though the label on the B-side has "I'm Happy Just To Dance With You" on it.

Do you know if any more of these singles have been issued?

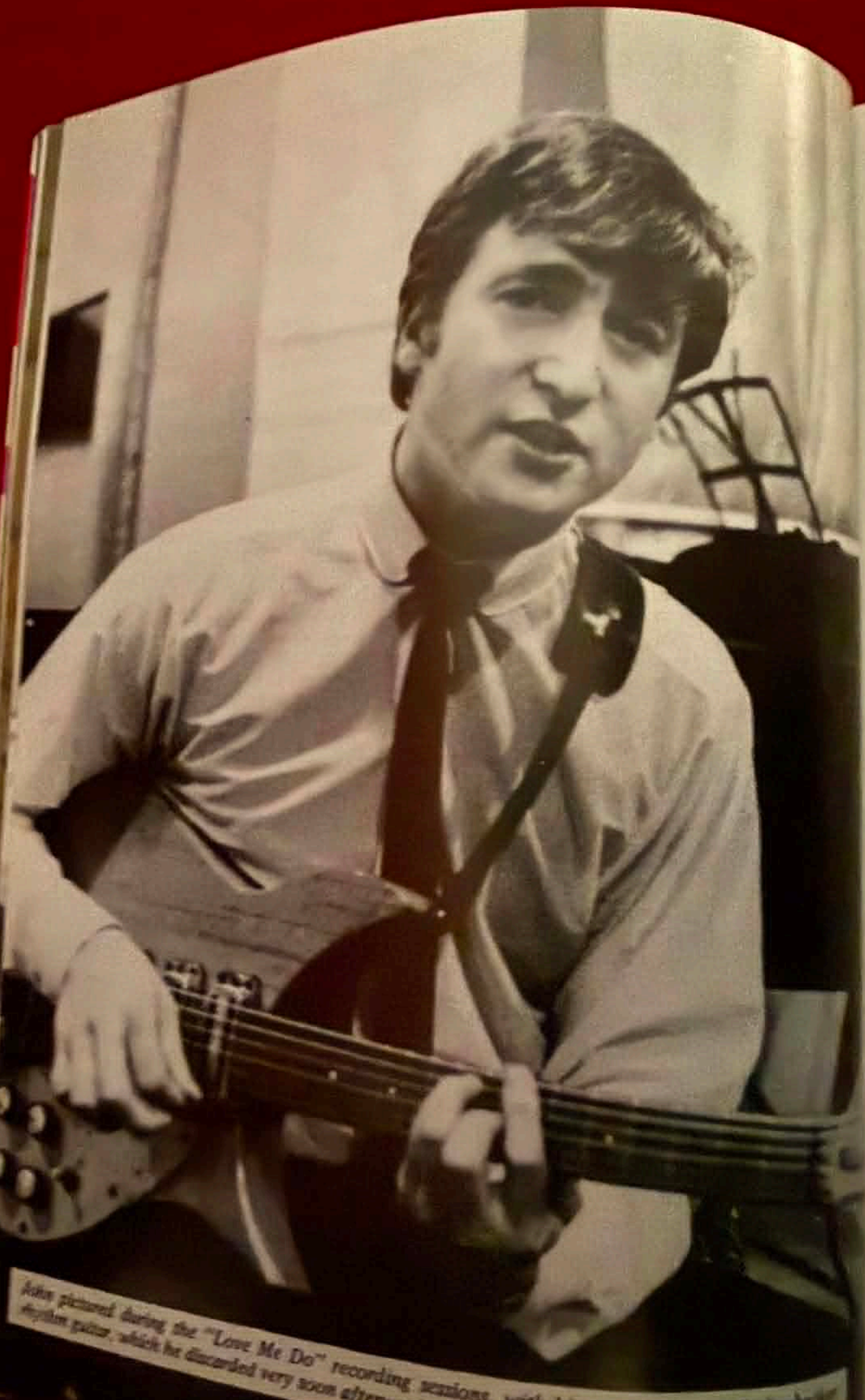
B. Fulton, Edinburgh.

We have had quite a few letters from readers with similar singles to yours — obviously EMI had a bad day at the pressing plant! Of course, the flipside of the record should be "I'm Happy Just To Dance With You", but it is possible for records to be mispressed and for the fault not to be noticed when they leave the factory. Perhaps the best example of this happened when several copies of the reissued Beatles' "Get Back" single turned up in the shops with Paul McCartney and Wings' "I've Had Enough" on the B-side instead of "Don't Bring Me Down". I'm sure that your local record shop would gladly change the record for you; but it may be worth holding on to your unusual copy, in case it becomes a collector's item in the future!

LONG-TERM FAN

Dear Johnny,

I thought I ought to write for two reasons: to welcome the new Beatles Book and to tell you how important I (and I'm sure many other Beatles fans) feel the twentieth anniversary of the group is. Pop music has definitely changed a lot over the last twenty years — but without the Beatles it wouldn't be the same today, and surely wouldn't be as important a field of entertainment as it is now. For long-term Beatles fans like myself, the start of Beatlemania seems like only



John pictured during the "Love Me Do" recording sessions, with his very distinctive Rickenbacker rhythm guitar, which he discarded very soon afterwards for a black model.

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Thanks, John,
Carole Ross. L

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yesterday, and I'm sure that this autumn's Beatle activities, and the release of new Beatles records, are going to bring back the heyday of the Beatles for many people too young to have enjoyed it first time around. Thanks, John, Paul, George and Ringo!
Carole Rose, London N8.

TWO MORE LPs ?

Dear Johnny,
Just before John was killed at the end of 1980, he did an interview with Andy Peebles for BBC Radio One, in which he said that he and Yoko had just about finished a second album as a follow-up to "Double Fantasy", which would be issued early in the New Year (1981). He also said that he and Yoko were already working on their third comeback album. A couple of times since then I have read rumours in the press that these records are about to appear, but of course nothing has actually been released yet. Do you know whether Yoko is going to let us hear these upon in the future?
Stephanie Franklin, London E10.

As far as we know, John and Yoko recorded as many as twenty-two songs during the "Double Fantasy" sessions, only fourteen of which were actually used on the record. They also taped several more songs in November and early December — though whether these or the other "Double Fantasy" songs are actually finished is a good question. Yoko is believed to have done some work on mixing and cleaning up the unreleased tapes, for a possible future release, though we have no definite information as yet.

The only track that has been released from these sessions is Yoko's "Walking On Thin Ice" single, which they finished mixing on the night that John died. In an interview last year Yoko said that she had been going through hundreds of tape boxes and files of paper in the Dakota, sorting out songs, records and other pieces of work (including drawings and poems) that John had done over the years. Her idea was that eventually she would issue some of John's work, making sure that it was up to the standards that John would have wanted to keep. So I think that sometime in the future we can definitely expect to see unreleased John Lennon recordings in the shops, but it's up to Yoko to decide when.

MISSING SEQUENCE

Dear Johnny,
I expect you and all other Beatles Book readers made a point of watching "Yellow Submarine" on television recently; but I was puzzled by one section of the film. Last time I saw it, at my local cinema several years ago, the sequence that accompanied the song "Hey Bulldog" wasn't in the film. This time, however, it was. Did my cinema have a faulty print, or are there two different versions of the film in circulation?
Kevin French, Truro.

You're quite right, Kevin; there are at least two different versions of "Yellow Submarine" going the rounds. In fact, when the BBC first showed the film in the early Seventies, they showed the same shorter print as you obviously saw. This was apparently edited for the American market, and the full version including "Hey Bulldog" is the proper version of the film.

Incidentally, Beatles Book readers may be interested to know that in the States a new print of "A Hard Day's Night" went round the cinema circuits last summer. It included an entirely new section of the film, featuring a collage of still shots of the Beatles while the song "I'll Cry Instead" (not in the original film) played on the soundtrack. Maybe we'll get to see that version in Britain as well!

SPECIAL FEATURE IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE ABOUT

THE BEATLES ALTERNATE TAKES

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If you have any difficulty obtaining the current issue from your newsagent you can get a copy direct from us by sending a cheque or Postal Order for £1.50 to:

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W5 5RQ, ENGLAND.

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If you want to buy and sell any Beatles items, or you are looking for a Beatles Penpal, then send your adverts to: Personal Ads, Beat Publications Ltd., 45 St. Mary's Road, Ealing, London W5 5RQ, England.

VERY SERIOUS BEATLE COLLECTOR SEEKS similar Beatle fans willing to exchange Beatles rarities. Your lists for mine. Ernie, 76 Culmore Park, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland.

FOR SALE: "RINGO'S ROTOGRAVURE" £5, "Goodnight Vienna" £5; "Sentimental Journey" £8. "Concert For Bangla Desh" £17. Prices include post but offers apply U.K. only. Please send SAE to: Robert Lowther, 18 David Rd., Exhall, Coventry CV7 9GS.

DEAR JOHN, HAVE A HAPPY BIRTHDAY. Sean too. Happy days Yoko. Lots of love – Lil.

WILL SWAP "LENNON REMEMBERS" for "The Footsteps Of The Beatles". Joanne White-head, 152 Brownlow Rd., Horwich, Bolton, Lancs. BL6 7EH, England. Hi! Lil and Pozzie.

WANTED: OVERSEAS PENPALS to trade maga-zines and newspaper articles. I'm 16 and like Paul. Valerie Kimble, 3632 Vernon, Brookfield, IL 60513, USA.

LENNON PORTFOLIO: ten unpublished drawings by Lennon dating from March 1969. These humorous drawings are from a series of note-pad sketches and are not to be confused with the Bag One erotic lithographs. Set of prints with folder £6.50 inc. P&P. M. Wiseman, 16 Michigan Ave., Manor Park, London E12.

WANTED: BEATLES TOUR PROGRAMMES from any European concerts. Beatles New Zealand tour programmes also wanted. I have Beatles British tour programmes and Xmas discs for swap/sale. Trevor Halliday, 4 Winston Parade, Comber, New-townards, Co. Down, N. Ireland.

PLEASE WRITE TO ME if you have heard the Beatles' BBC Radio versions of any one of the following songs: "I Saw Her Standing There"; "A Taste Of Honey"; "Baby It's You"; "Ask Me Why"; "Twist And Shout"; "I Want To Hold Your Hand". Steven Wood, 1812 Oklahoma Street, Sikeston, Missouri 63801, USA.

THE BEATLES BOOK MONTHLY for sale from May 1976 to July 1982, £25.00. P.J. Stanley, 17 Yewdale Ave., Clinkham Wood, St. Helens, Merseyside, England.

VERY RARE BEATLES RECORDS and memor-abilia for sale. Many bargains. SAE for list to: Philip Webb, 3 Swanston Drive, Newtonabbey, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

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If you would like to place a Personal Ad in the Beatles Book Monthly Magazine, please fill in the coupon below, or print your Ad and your full name and address clearly on a sheet of paper.

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MAXIMUM 90 WORDS

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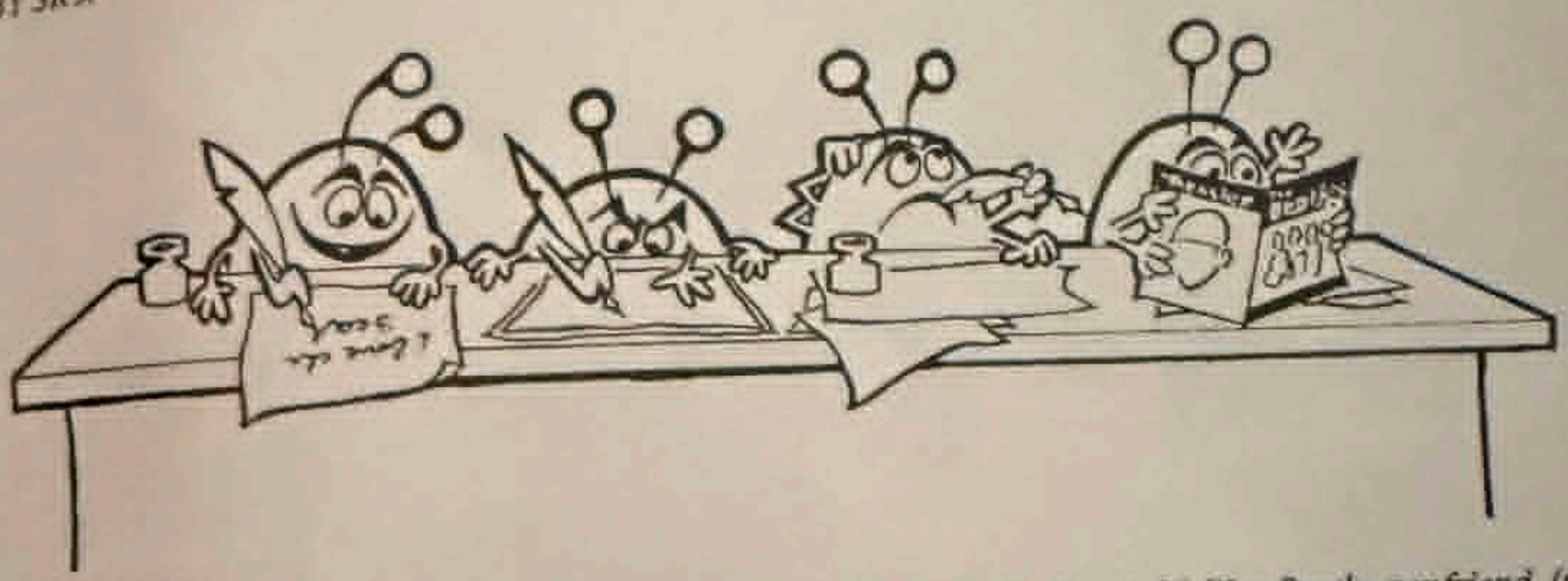
SEAN LENNON – HAPPY BIRTHDAY. Dad will be watching from heaven on the day you are seven. John, happy birthday, forty-two today and resting in your Strawberry Fields forever. Miss you lots John but memories are only a record away. Love Debs, Ireland Wood, Leeds.

BEATLE POLL: 1) Fave Beatle; 2) Two fave solo Beatles albums; 3) Five fave Beatles albums; 4) Twenty fave Beatles songs; 5) Have you ever seen the Beatles live? If so, where and when? 6) Province, state or country you reside in; 7) Age. Kirk Jackson, 3439 Clanfield Cr., Mississsauga, Ontario, Canada L4Y 3K9.

FOR SALE: THE BEATLES IN "LET IT BE" VHS video, £30. Also Beatle films in Super 8 sound. SAE for details to: John Letham, 13 Logie Drive, Larbert, Stirlingshire, Scotland.

BEATLES RECORD LISTS always available: original Parlophone from 20p; foreign picture sleeves; Lennon/McCartney/Harrison/Starr solo items; mono albums; Apple, Dark Horse, Ring-O. Send us your wants or send for lists. SAE/IRC to: Pop Records, 172 Kings Rd., Reading, England. We will trade for foreign releases or rarities. We also pay cash for any Beatles items. Open Monday to Friday 10 am – 5 pm.



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TRAVEL THE UNIVERSE and ride the clouds until we arrive to hear you sing your melodies. Happy birthday, John. Love and peace go with you forever more. From Karen.

WANTED: RED LABEL "LOVE ME DO". Xmas records, any original Beatles acetate demos, any Super 8/8mm movies, "The Beatles 10th Australian Anniversary" (PCss 7533/4), 'Butcher Cover' original LP, "The Essential Beatles", any tour programmes, any original Australian LPs/EPs/singles, or any Beatles/Lennon singles with pic sleeves. Top prices paid. Dealers welcome. All enquiries to: Robert Sweeney, 26 Church St., Mudgee, NSW 2850, Australia.

FOR SALE: updated editions of "SHOUT", £3.00 inc. P&P. A copy guaranteed to all ordering. Wanted: anything on Jimi Hendrix. Nechama please ring me. John Lennon I love you. Debbie Seymour, 242 East End Rd., London N2.

BEATLES ITEMS FOR SALE: including records, tapes and books, all in Mint condition. Send SAE for list to: Derek Rogers, 83 Sandringham Crescent, South Harrow, Middx, HA2 9BP, England.

VERY RARE LOCKET with 12 photos, 1963; tablecloth, portraits, printed autographs, 1964; Wings – three different concert brochures, 1974 Tour; sheet music "Need Is Love". Offers to: 2 Southlands, Goostrey, Cheshire, England.

FEMALE PENPAL WANTED aged 14 to 18, from anywhere in the world, for male Beatle fan (18). Parent photo if possible. Write to: Robert Sweeney, 26 Church St., Mudgee, NSW 2850, Australia.

BEATLES FAN would like Beatle penfriend (male or female, anywhere). I'm 19. Barbara Maitland, 1 Meadow View, Hyde Park, Leeds 6, Yorkshire, England.

WANTED: PENPAL ANYWHERE IN USA. My age is 25. J. Crompton, 120 St. Denis Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 4LV, England.

WANTED: "HELP!" BOOK. Graham Thompson, 62A North Cray Rd., Bexley, Kent DA5 3LZ, U.K.

BLESS YOU, JOHN LENNON. In our hearts forever! From Harry Chapman, Mike Barrow and Lorna.

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THE RINGO STARR FAN CLUB has moved to new premises. Annual membership £4.00 (overseas £5.00 Money Order). Membership includes: card, badge, patch, magazines etc. Send cheques/POs etc. to: Ringo Starr Fan Club, 416 Chartridge Lane, Chesham, Bucks. HP5 2SJ, England. (Or SAE for further details).

TO ALL MY FAB PALS who went to the Beatles Convention: Jayne, Karen (and Steve), Sue, Susan, Mandy, Debbie, Coreen, Anita, Ruth, Ann, Gillian and my gear pal Lizzie Jones – ta for the best weekend "in my life". See you next year or sooner! Luv Mel.

John and Paul run through the harmonies during the recording session for the "Love Me Do" single in September 1962 at the EMI Studios in Abbey Road.

BEATLES '82

A DIARY OF RECENT NEWS AND EVENTS

DECCA AUDITION TAPES FINALLY RELEASED IN BRITAIN

Following hot on the heels of the recent legal release by Sidereal Records in the U.S.A. of the Beatles' Decca audition tapes comes news of the U.K. release. Audiofidelity Enterprises, the company who also have the U.K. rights to the Hamburg Star Club tapes, have now picked up the tapes to the Decca tapes and released them here under the title "The Complete Silver Beatles" on September 10th, cat. no. AFELP 1047. Twelve of the fifteen tracks on the eight-track tape are included on the LP, the three omissions being the Lennon/McCartney compositions, presumably because of legal fears. Unfortunately the album cover is very poorly put together and leaves a lot to be desired.

"LOVE ME DO" TO BE RELEASED ON 20th ANNIVERSARY

EMI will be re-releasing "Love Me Do"/"P.S. I Love You" on the original red Parlophone label on October 4th. All EMI releases are now scheduled for Mondays, so releasing the single on the exact 20th anniversary of its original issue, October 5th, is impossible. The catalogue number, 6059, remains the same although this time the record will be sold in a picture bag. In the same day EMI are also issuing a 'limited edition' picture disc of the record [R 6059] – the first ever legal Beatles single to be released in this way.

"THE BEATLES GREATEST HITS"

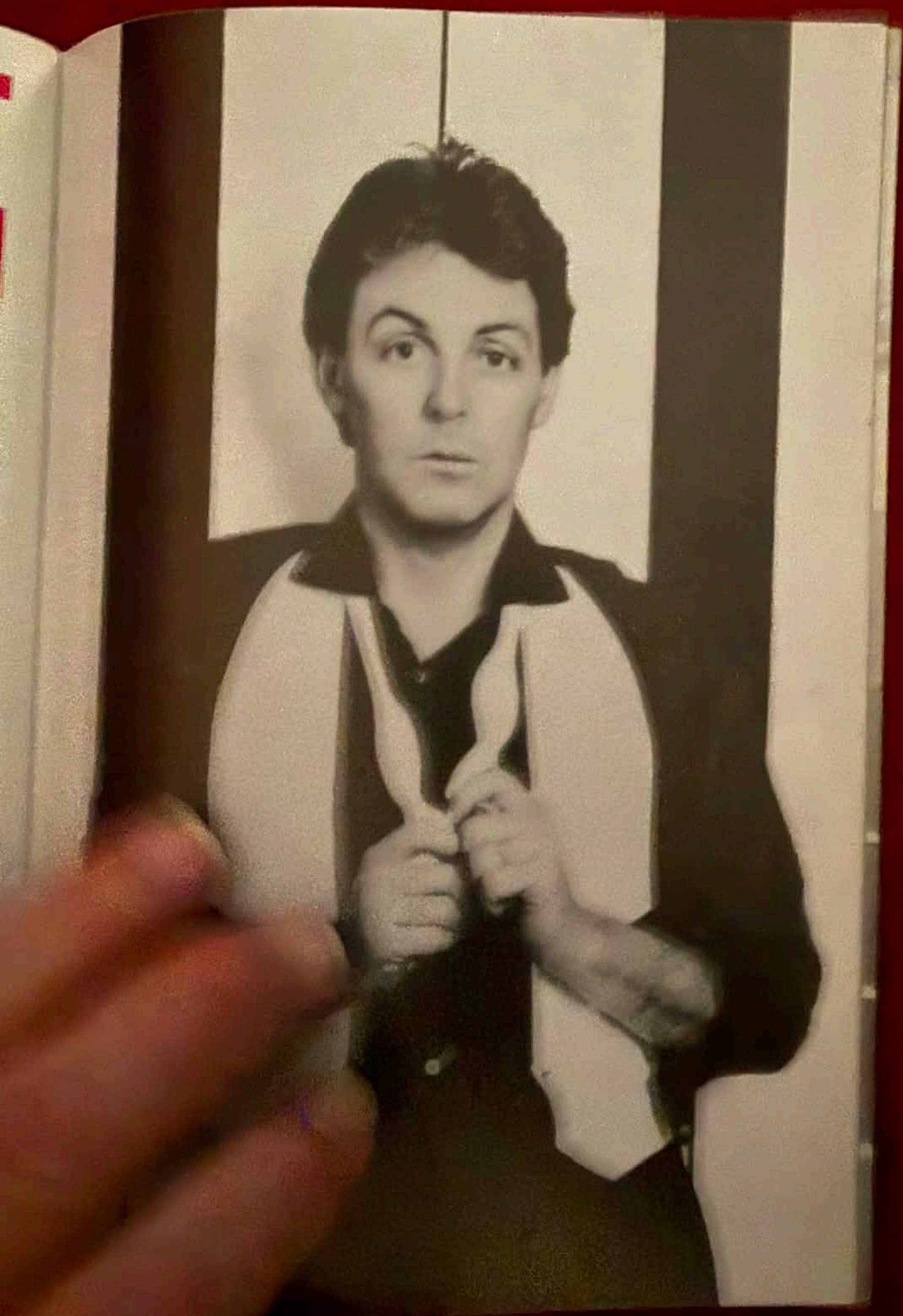
Presently scheduled for October 11th but subject to last-minute change is a new double album, "The Beatles' Greatest Hits" [Parlophone EMTVS 34] featuring, for the first time, all 22 singles released between 1962 and 1970 plus the four other tracks making, including 26 songs in all.

[illegible] BEATLES ALBUM RELEASES

[illegible] new LP entitled "The Beatles Album File" by Bob Spitz, due to be published by Sidgwick & Jackson in mid-November. The book contains 256 pages and 40 illustrations and [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] "Beatles" record, an original demo for publication on Cut Me Disc records, has been withdrawn from sale [illegible] September 1982.



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BEATLES '82

BRAND NEW BEATLES SINGLES COLLECTION

EMI are also set to release a brand new Beatles Singles box set early in November. Entitled "The Beatles' Singles Collection" it will include all the 26 releases (the original 22 plus the four subsequent post-1976 issues) as well as a special bonus single – probably the new "Love Me Do" picture disc. The box will be the standard blue with gold lettering to match the album and EP collections, but each record inside, even including the early releases, will be packaged in all-new full colour picture sleeves – each photograph designed to tie in with how the Fab Four looked at the time of the original release. The two exceptions to this are the "Penny Lane" and "Let It Be" singles which are being packaged in their original sleeves.

PAUL McCARTNEY'S LATEST SINGLE RELEASED

"Tug Of War", Paul's brand new single and the follow up to "Take It Away", was released by EMI on September 20th (Parlophone R 6057) with the Carl Perkins duet "Get It" occupying the flipside. Unlike "Ebony And Ivory" and "Take It Away" it is not being issued as a 12" although the 7" does come in a nice full colour picture bag.
"Silly Love Dancing", the track hotly tipped to have been the next single, is now unlikely to be issued in this form.

NEW GEORGE HARRISON ALBUM ON THE WAY

George's new album, "Gone Troppo", his first for sixteen months, is due for U.K. release on October 8th on Dark Horse via Warner Brothers (K 57025). At the time of going to press labels were keeping the track details and any possible singles from the album a closely guarded secret, although we understand that the album was produced by Phil MacDonald and features Herbie Flowers on bass, Mike Moran on keyboards and Jim Keltner on drums.

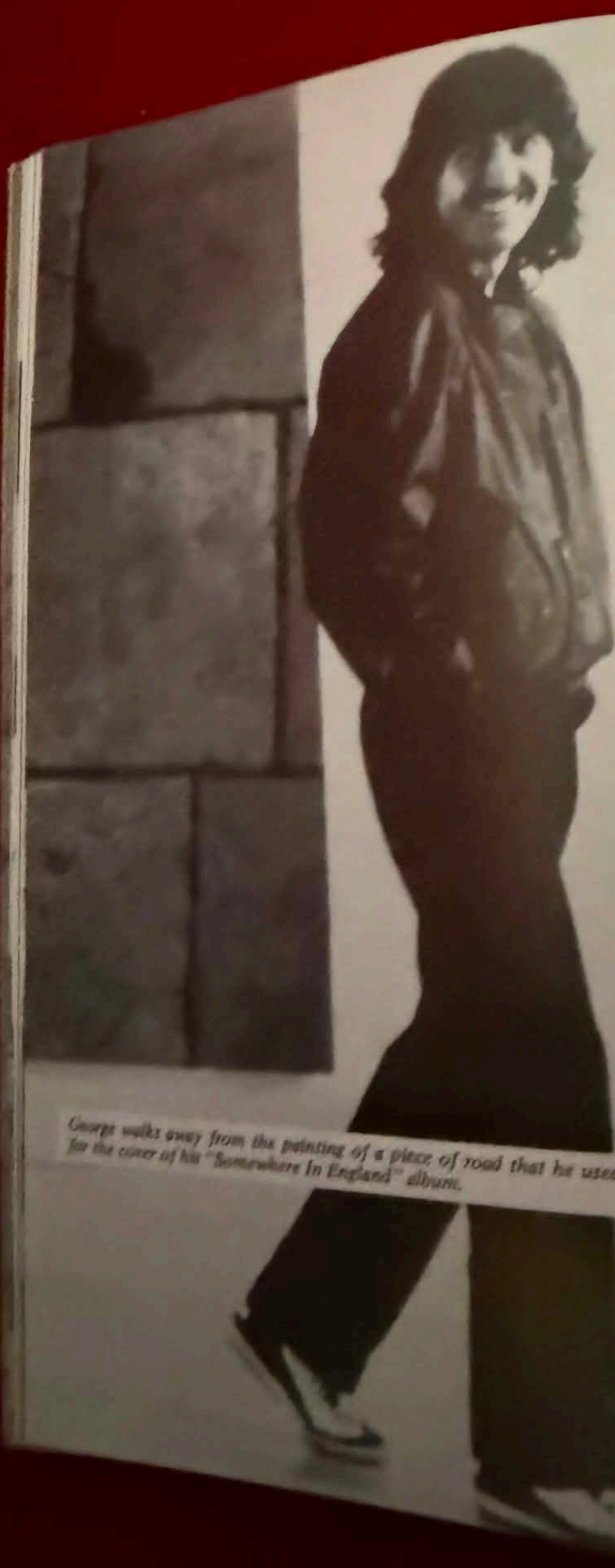
PAUL MAKES GUEST APPEARANCE WITH MICHAEL

As a result of their new friendship, Paul makes a guest appearance on the new Michael Jackson album "Thriller", due for release by Epic on November 5th (EPC 85930). In fact the first single from the LP will be their joint composition, "The Girl Is Mine" which Epic plan to release here on October 8th. The single will actually be credited to 'Michael Jackson and Paul McCartney' as Paul sings and plays on the track too. You'll remember that one of the singles from Michael Jackson's last Epic album "Off The Wall" was Paul's song "Girlfriend", which he originally wrote for Michael and then recorded himself on Wings' "London Town" album.

RINGO AND PAUL DANCING UP A STORM

The seventh annual MPL-financed Buddy Holly Week, this year held between September 7th and 13th, proved yet again to be a tremendous success. The highlight of the seven-day event was undoubtedly the Rock'n'Roll Dance Championship which took place at London's Lyceum Ballroom on the evening of the first day. The affair attracted many star names, all looking cool in their drainpipe trousers and crepe-soled shoes, including a splendid Holly-like (where DID he get those glasses?!) Paul McCartney accompanied by wife Linda. Ringo and his wife Barbara.

John and Yoko Lennon stand outside the Dakota Building in New York, their home in the early months of 1981 that used to mark their comeback to recording with the "Double Fantasy" album.



George walks away from the painting of a place of road that he used as a backdrop for the cover of his "Somewhere In England" album.

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BEATLES '82

TONY SHERIDAN SUES FOR MILLIONS

Dirk Summers, the American impresario acting on behalf of his new client Tony Sheridan, has filed a staggering £750m lawsuit against Polydor, Philips and twenty other worldwide record companies claiming that at least eighteen songs performed solely by Sheridan including "Skinny Minnie", "Let's Dance" and "Let's Twist Again" have been sold under the name of the Beatles "even though the Beatles did not appear on such records". Summers claims that Tony Sheridan has not received any royalty payments at all from these tracks.

WILL "LEAVE MY KITTEN ALONE" STAY IN THE VAULTS?

EMI have gone very quiet of late on the subject of the now legendary unreleased Beatles track, "Leave My Kitten Alone". Although we were told to expect a 'pre-Christmas release', word from people in the know at the recent Liverpool Beatles Convention suggests that now it might never see the light of day at all! Watch this space for further details. Incidentally, the song was recorded on August 14th, 1964, as part of the "Beatles For Sale" album sessions.

ABBEY ROAD PROMOTIONAL ALBUM

To tie in with the recent publication of Brian Southall's "Abbey Road" book, which features a foreword by Paul McCartney and a preface by George Martin, EMI have pressed a special 'promotional use for radio stations only' LP of twenty-four well-known tracks recorded or mixed at the famous studios. The album includes the Beatles' "She Loves You", George Harrison's "My Sweet Lord" and Wings' "Mull Of Kintyre". Entitled "The Abbey Road Collection", the catalogue number of the release is EMI PSLP 366.

"DOUBLE FANTASY" NOW RUNS AT HALF-SPEED!

John and Yoko's "Double Fantasy" album is about to be released as a de luxe half-speed master pressing in the U.S.A. by Nautilus Records. Expect expensive import copies in the U.K. shortly. Meanwhile, still in the U.S.A., Mobile Fidelity Sound Lab are shortly to be releasing a box set of all fourteen British Beatles albums each re-cut at half-speed. The retail price will be staggering $325!

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE NEW BEATLES BOOK

Please note: the annual subscription rates for the NEW BEATLES BOOK starting in October are as follows: £12.00 in the U.K., £15.00 (Irish) in the Irish Republic and £13.00 in Europe inclusive of postage and packaging; $33.00 in the U.S.A., Canada and South Africa; $38.00 in Australia and New Zealand; 9000 yen in Japan; and 8500 cruzeiros in Brazil. All rates outside Europe are for AIRMAIL postage.

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A photograph of a photographer trying to take a photo of the Beatles in Manchester Square near EMI's offices early in their recording career. As usual, John refused to take the episode seriously!

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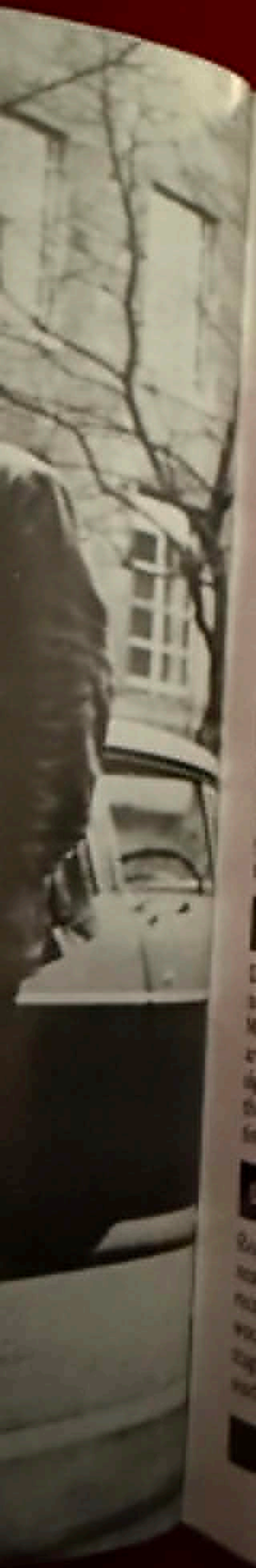

BEATLES '82

BEATLES RADIO SPECIAL COMING YOUR WAY SOON

A two hour radio celebration of the Beatles' 20th anniversary is currently being syndicated around Britain's commercial (ILR) stations. The programme features interviews with Bob Wallis, Terry Barrow, Bill Harry, Helen Shapiro and Victor Spinetti as well as tapes of old Pierre interviews — so keep an ear open to your local commercial station!

BEATLES CONVENTION RESOUNDING SUCCESS

This year's U.K. Beatles Convention, held at Liverpool's plush Adelphi Hotel on August 28th and 29th proved to be a tremendous success in every way. The attendance easily topped 2000 and the guest speakers and films/videos were by far the best ever seen at a U.K. event. A splendid time was had by all and the third of these professionally-run events is planned for next year.

One unfortunate aspect of collecting Beatles' records, that of counterfeiting, reared its ugly head at one particular stall at the Convention where, unknown to the organisers and (worse still) the buyers themselves, suspiciously new looking Apple acetates and custom pressings were changing hands at an alarming rate for upwards of £15 each. The perpetrators of this dirty deed should be ashamed of themselves for parting many people, including young teenagers, from their hard-earned cash. Next time let's just call in the police and get them moved!

BANGLA DESH CONCERT ON VIDEO — AT LAST

October 4th sees the release by Thorn EMI of "The Concert For Bangla Desh", the film record of George Harrison's massive 1971 benefit concert in New York, now available on video cassette for the first time. Catalogue numbers are (VHS) TVD 90 0911 2; (Beta) TXD 90 0911 4. The running time of the video is 95 minutes, considerably shorter than the original film version due to the removal of most of the Ravi Shankar section of the concert.

LIVERPOOL HONOURS THE BEATLES

Despite pouring rain, many Beatles fans gathered on the streets of Liverpool on August 16th to watch the city's four newest road signs being put into place. The roads are called Paul McCartney Way, John Lennon Drive, George Harrison Close and Ringo Starr Drive, and are all situated in the Kensington Fields estate. City engineers have carefully placed all the signs well out of arm's reach to make sure that souvenir-hunting tourists can't walk off with the signs. Apparently the road signs for Penny Lane in the city have disappeared countless times since the Beatles immortalised the name in song.

LIVE APPEARANCES UNLIKELY FROM GEORGE?

Recent announcements from a friend of George's seem to rule out any live appearances in the near future from Britain's most reclusive Beatle. George was apparently penciled in for a recent royal charity concert in London, but an unnamed friend was quoted as saying: "George would love to play, But he's too nervous to perform live after all these years away from the stage". We're sure, however, that George would be an instant sell-out if he did take up live work again, so how about it George!

by Mark Lewisohn

An immaculately-dressed Paul and Linda McCartney during the recent Buddy Holly Week events in London. Note Paul's Holly-lookalike glasses and bootlace tie!

Back Issues

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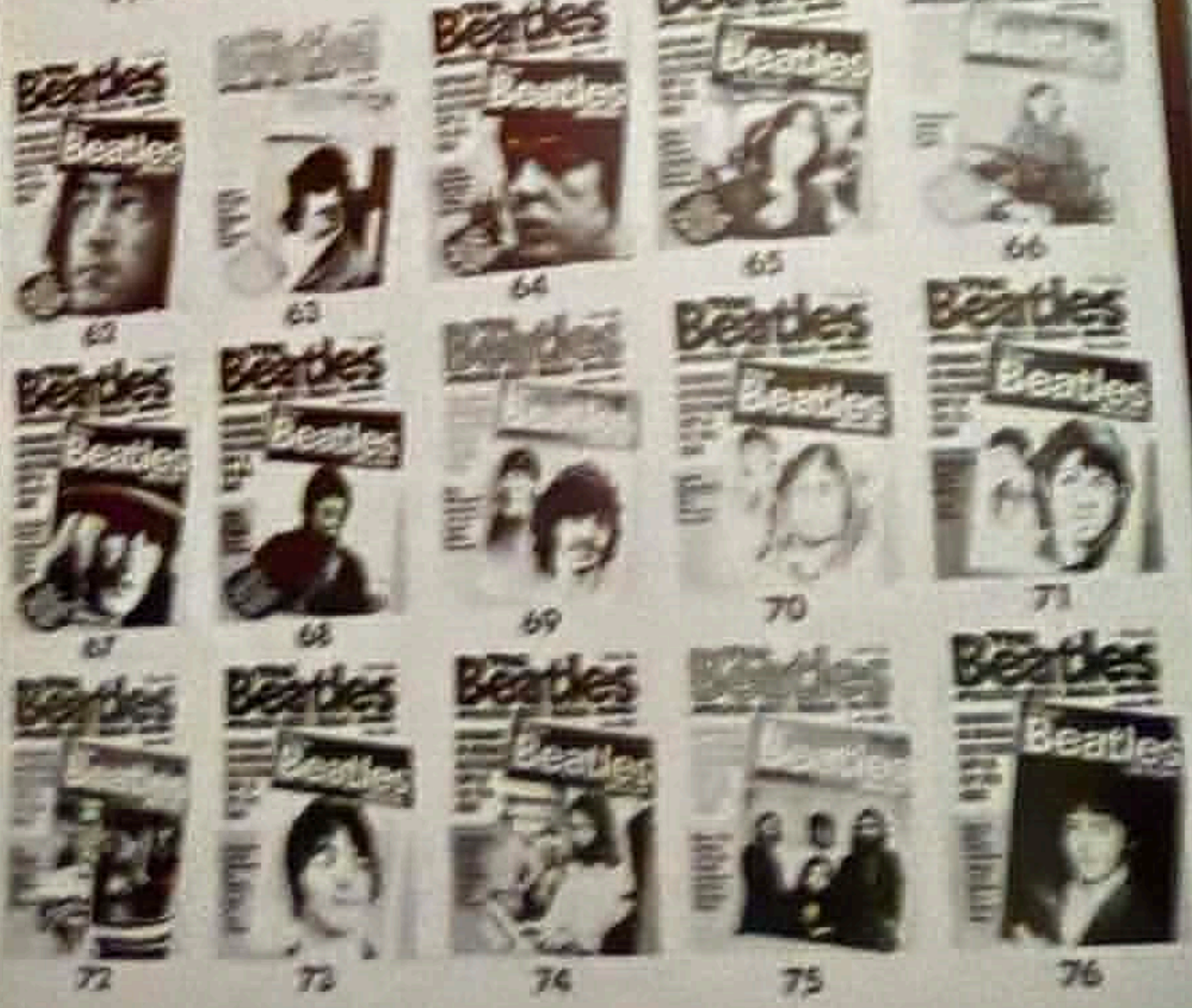

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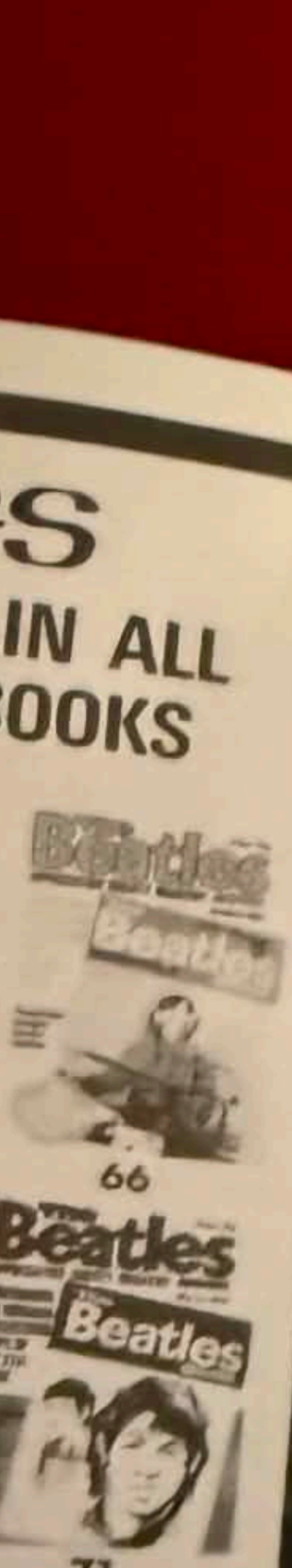

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"THE COMPLETE SILVER BEATLES"

PETER DOGGETT REVIEWS THE NEW AUDIOFIDELITY BEATLES LP, WHICH CONTAINS SONGS FROM THEIR 1962 DECCA AUDITION

For Beatles fans, the Decca audition tapes have always had a strong air of mystery and excitement about them. After all, the tapes not only show what the Beatles sounded like ten months before their first Parlophone single, but, much more importantly, they are the only professionally-recorded evidence of the John, Paul, George and Pete Best line-up that Brian Epstein hawked around the record companies in the early months of 1962. Add to that the controversy over what really happened between the Beatles and Decca after the audition, and you have all the makings of a Beatles legend.

It always seemed unlikely that we would ever get to hear the tapes, bearing in mind the possible legal complications about whether they were owned by the record company or the group, until they suddenly started to appear on bootlegs a few years back. Those lucky enough to hear the tapes said that the sound quality was excellent, with John, Paul and George all in fine voice, and that they went some way towards answering the questions about how good a drummer Pete Best really was. A legal release still seemed a long way away, however, until last month, when an American company called Backstreet Records issued ten of the fifteen songs on the bootleg tape as a legitimate album. Audiofidelity Enterprises have now followed that up with a British release that includes twelve songs: "Memphis", "September In The Rain", "Crying, Waiting, Hoping", "To Know Her Is To Love Her", "Besame Mucho", "Three Cool Cats", "Searchin' ", "Money", "Till There Was You", "Sure To Fall", "The Sheik Of Araby" and "Take Good Care Of My Baby".

Three other songs, all early Lennon/McCartney compositions, were included on the original tape, but have not been used on the album. These are "Like Dreamers Do", later given to the Applejacks, "Love Of The Loved" (Cilla Black's first single) and "Hello Little Girl", a 1963 hit for the Foremost.

The twelve songs that are on the album are a fair cross-section of the Beatles' stage act at the time, taking in a mixture of rock'n'roll classics and show business standards. Like the Hamburg tapes, these songs prove once and for all that the Beatles had their harmonies well worked out long before they met George Martin. Considering that all the tracks were recorded in one take in a cold studio on New Year's Day, the performances are excellent. The boys sound nervous, especially John and Paul, and suprisingly it's George who comes through as the most confident vocalist of them all.

HUMOUR

"Besame Mucho" shows the Beatles' well-developed sense of humour, and rivals the "Let It Be" film version for tongue-in-cheek panache. "Searchin' " and "Sheik Of Araby" also have that lively good humour that pulled the Beatles out from the crowd in the early days of Beatlemania, while "To Know You Is To Love You"brings out John's best ballad voice. There are mistakes, of course: the occasional wayward harmony, or muffed chord, but these only add to the sense of history in the making. Pete Best's drumming is adequate throughout, but is only really noticeable when he makes a mistake, and the Beatles obviously gained when they picked up the solid backbeat of Ringo Starr later on that year.

Obviously you'll want to buy this album just to get hold of the legend; but we're sure that you'll enjoy it as well, when you finally get the chance to go back 21 years and hear the Beatles live in the studio, on what was the most important day of their lives up to that point. Little did they know what was in store!

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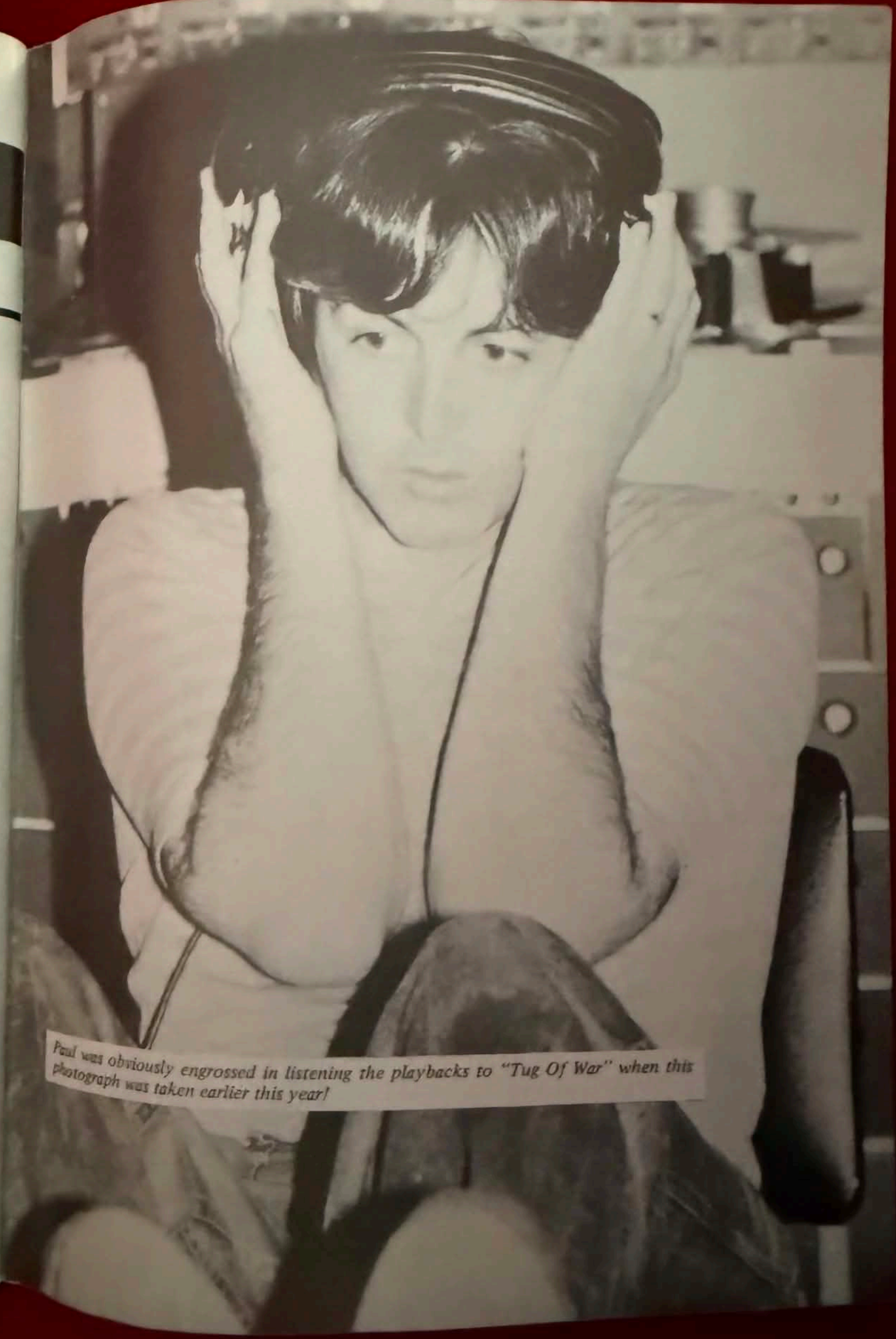

Paul was obviously engrossed in listening the playbacks to "Tug Of War" when this photograph was taken earlier this year!

OCT. 1982

The Beatles BOOK